March comes in like a lion
Chica Umino

3月のライオン

羽海野チカ

March comes in like a lion
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3

JETS COMICS

3月のライオン

3

羽海野チカ

白泉社
4513

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「あの家はなんかコタツみたいだ…」。
年末に体調を崩していた桐山だが、心配して駆け付けた川本家の3姉妹のあたたかい看病を受けて回復する。
復調した桐山は因縁の相手・後藤九段と対決すべく獅子王戦挑戦者決定トーナメントに挑むのだが…
様々な人間が、何かを取り戻していく優しい物語です。

（平成21年8月14日刊）

message

「著者 ロマン 近影」

羽海野チカ

なんだろう―この可愛さ―
可愛さのモンドセレクションがあれば
金賞を独り占めに違いない
とのつぶらな瞳！
ぽやけた鼻!!
寝癖のついた右ヒゲ!!
への字のくち!!
天使!?宝石!?ママの宝物だよ!!

ヤングアニマル ANIMAL
毎月第2・第4◎曜日発売
ヤングアニマル Aruka 嵐
毎月第1金曜日発売

3月のライオン 3

羽海野チカ

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March Comes in Like a Lion

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY UMINO CHIKA
PUBLISHED BY HAKUSENSHA (2008/08)
VOLUME 3 ISBN 978-4592145134

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TRANSLATED BY BLAZING_ICE
CLEANED BY CHARA
TYPESET BY CHARA
PROOFREAD / QC BY KTWHSH

・トマト
・玉ネ
・ハム
・いんげん
7月
牛乳

3月のライオン

March comes in like a lion
Chica Umino

羽海野チカ
将棋監修●先崎学八段

3

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Chapter 22

Year Out

3月のライオン

After all the matches had ended for the year,

I was bedridden with a high fever.

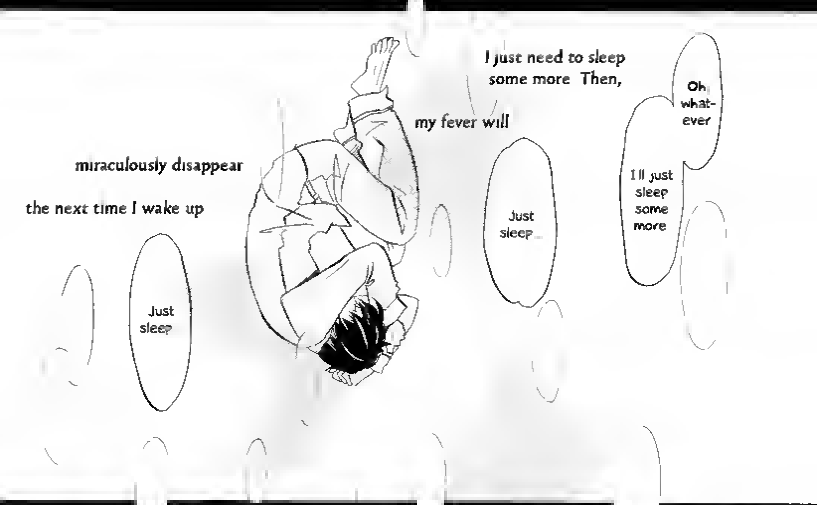
Huddled alone in that dark room,

I greeted

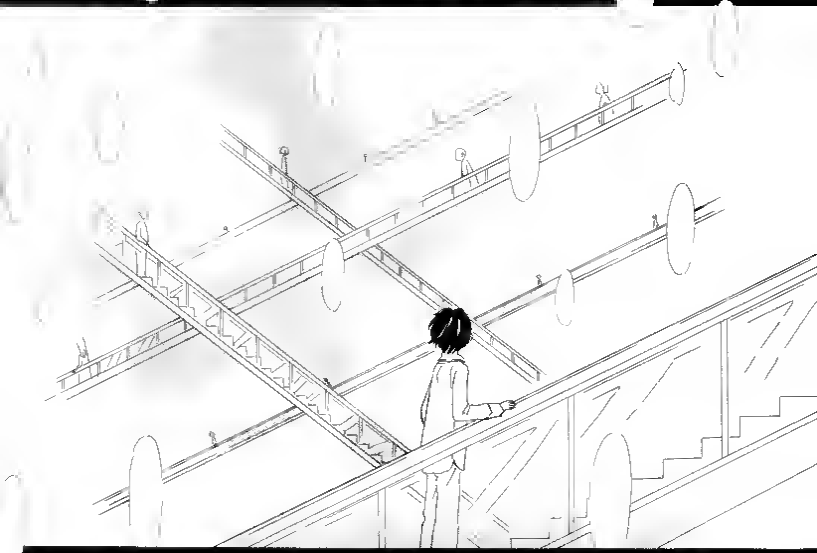
the last day of the year, December 31st

SFX: BSH (BONE)
Ah
SFX: TON... CTAP...
Water
In the days that I was confined at home,
But...
I should take some
—Oh right, medicine...
I should eat
I
there's only one dose left...
Need to go buy...
But...
I don't wanna.
It's too much hassle
—Or actually, it's impossible.
delirious from my fever, I...

I saw the same dream over and over again.



The one that has kept coming back ever since I was a kid.



A dream where I go up a long... long... escalator.

There was nothing to be afraid of— just that

SFX: GOUN GOUN (GONG GONG)

after going up and up and up... At the top,

SFX: GOUN GOUN... GOUN GOUN... (GONG GONG... GONG GONG...)

there was no way to return.

WHO...

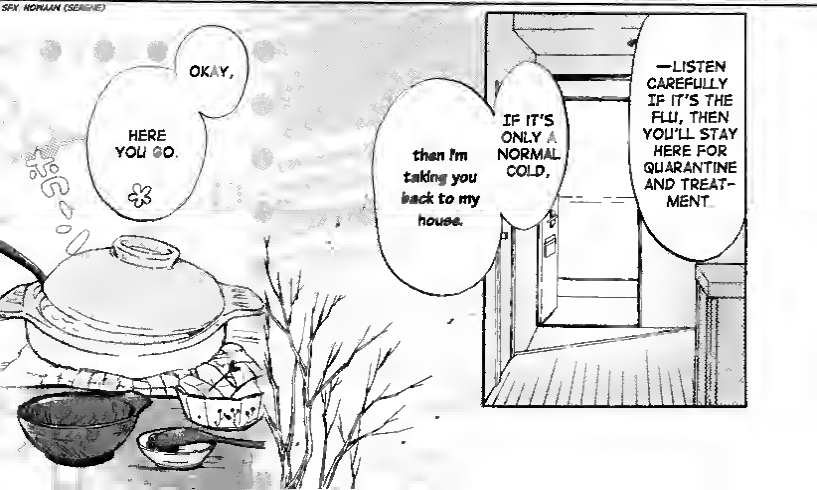
?!

SFX: PINPOON PINPOON PINPOON (DING-DOUNG DING-DONG DING-DOONG)

ピンポーン
ピンポーン
Shut up
Stop it!
No
Can't get the door!
SFX: GOHO... (COUGH...)
SFX: PINPON PINPON PINPON (DING-DONG DING-DONG DING DONG)
ピンポン
ピンポン
ピンポン
ピンポン
?!
SFX: GOHO... (COUGH...)
Rei
chan...
Rei-chan...
M-
MOMO-CHAN...
WHY?
Reei-chan.

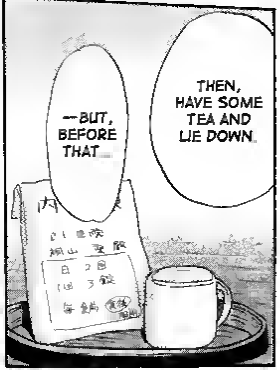
!!
HOW... COME!?
EH?
UM...
Whoa! Rea-chan's house!!
Okay! Charge!!
ROGER!
Ah— Goodness!
you did catch a cold.
EH?
AH!

SFX: BOFA (FLUFF)
Hina!! Secure the pillow!!
UNDERSTOOD☆
Rei-kun,
You only need to bring your cell phone, wallet, and keys!! You can go in your pajamas. Where's your coat?
I've already called a taxi for you. Downstairs.
Eh? Taxi? Why? W-where am I going?
Come on, wear your scarf!!
Where do you think?
To see a doctor of course.
SFX: KI (GLARE)


SFX: NONNAN (SERENE)
—Listen carefully. If it's the flu, then you'll stay here for quarantine and treatment.
If it's only a normal cold,
then I'm taking you back to my house.
Okay,
here you go.

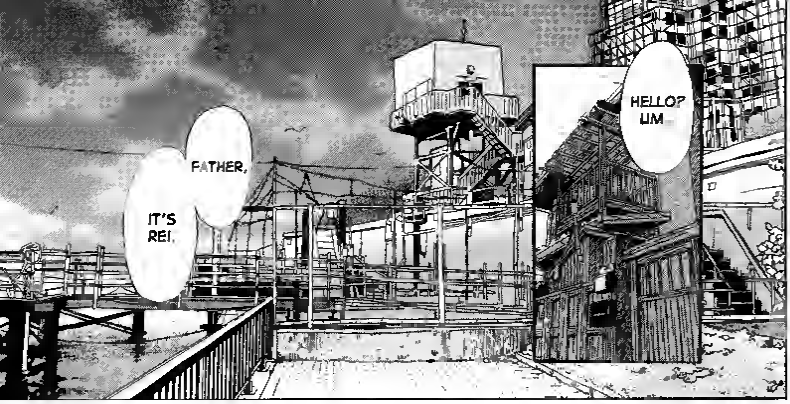
SFX: KO KO KO (TAP TAP TAP)
DO YOU LIKE UMEBOSHI? I PUT SOME IN.
EVEN THOUGH YOU CAN'T TASTE MUCH BECAUSE OF YOUR FEVER, IT'LL BE A BIT REFRESHING
SINCE WE HAVE BOTH THE YOUNG AND OLD AT OUR PLACE, WE HAVE TO BE EXTRA CAREFUL.
WOW
IT'S EGG CONGEE. OKAY, EAT UP! I SAW YOUR KITCHEN.
YOU HAVEN'T REALLY EATEN ANYTHING, HAVE YOU?
I'M GLAD THAT IT'S NOT THE FLU.
SFX: GOHO GOHO (COUGH COUGH)
SFX: MOKO MOKO (FLUFFY FLUFFY FLUFFY)
WE'LL WRAP THIS TOWEL AROUND YOUR NECK AND REPLACE IT AFTER YOU SWEAT.
SINCE IT'S REALLY EASY TO SWEAT AFTER EATING CONGEE
EH?
AH
LIFT UP YOUR HEAD.
HERE, REE-CHAN
OKAY, MOMO!
JUST GOING TO WIPE THE SWEAT ON YOUR FOREHEAD THERE
SORRY,
WE HAVE LOTS OF TOWELS, SO WE CAN CHANGE ANYTIME
YOU WON'T GET BETTER IF YOU DON'T SWEAT.
SFX: 6 : SUI SUSHI (WIPE WIPE)

EH?
NO, I'M ALREADY LIVING INDEPEN-DENTLY.
IT SHOULD BE FINE...
THEY'RE PROBABLY REALLY WORRIED
YOU NEED TO MAKE A CALL TO YOUR HOME IN MEJIRO
Milk in milk in
Citrus things are just Milk in...



MEDICINE (TAKEN ORALLY)
HOSPITAL
MR. KIKIYAMA REI
TWICE A DAY
THREE TABLETS EACH TIME
TAKE AFTER MEAL

HMPH...
LIVING INDEPENDENTLY?
.....
SFX: PAKA (SNAP)
SFX: PIRORIN (CHIME)
SFX: GUU (POP)
SORRY. LET ME BORROW YOUR CELL PHONE FOR JUST A SEC
RECHARGE!!!
YOUR CELL PHONE HAS BEEN DEAD FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS, RIGHT?
AM I RIGHT?
HOW IS THAT "INDEPENDENT"?
ACTUALLY MAKING THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU WORRY,
YES
Call History
Father missed
Father missed
Father missed
Kawamoto missed
Father missed
Father missed
Kawamoto missed
Kawamoto missed
Father missed



"Since I couldn't get through to your cell phone, I was planning to go to your place. Are you really okay?"

"Rei? Is this Rei?"
"Are you okay?"
"What happened? You got a cold?"

The moment I heard Father's voice on the phone,

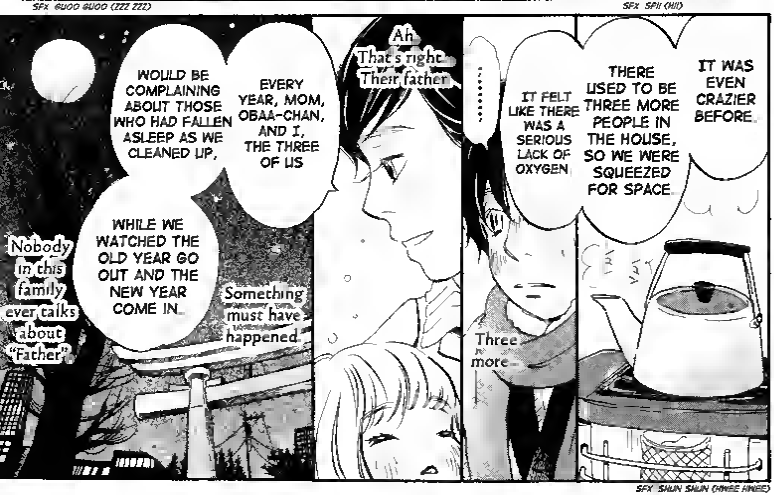
I saw my shallowness.

Father's voice

was a voice that was truly worried about me.

I'm an idiot.
Going round and round in circles in my head.
But in the end,
I was only thinking about myself.
KIRIYAMA-KUN,
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
CAN YOU GET UP?
COME AND EAT SOMETHING, AND THEN TAKE SOME MEDICINE?

AS I EXPECTED–
.....
I KNEW THAT IT WOULD TURN OUT LIKE THIS..
TOTALLY.
Let me know when maiko-chan is on.
Let me know when Ishikawa Sayori is on.
Niyon
Please wake us up nyan
When anyone's ready
SFX: GUOO GUOO (ZZZ ZZZ)
SFX: SPII (HII)


Ah. That's right. Their father.
.....
IT WAS EVEN CRAZIER BEFORE.
THERE USED TO BE THREE MORE PEOPLE IN THE HOUSE, SO WE WERE SQUEEZED FOR SPACE.
IT FELT LIKE THERE WAS A SERIOUS LACK OF OXYGEN.
Three more.
EVERY YEAR, MOM, OBAA-CHAN, AND I, THE THREE OF US
WOULD BE COMPLAINING ABOUT THOSE WHO HAD FALLEN ASLEEP AS WE CLEANED UP,
WHILE WE WATCHED THE OLD YEAR GO OUT AND THE NEW YEAR COME IN.
Something must have happened.
Nobody in this family ever talks about "Father".
SFX: SHUN SHUN (WHEE WHEE)

COME ON, REI-KUN, YOU SHOULD EAT YOU'RE HUNGRY, RIGHT?
YOU WERE SLEEPING SO SOUNDLY THAT WE DIDN'T WANT TO WAKE YOU.
I CRUSHED SOME UMEBOSHI AND MIXED THEM IN
EVEN WHEN YOU HAVE A FEVER AND YOU CAN'T TASTE ANYTHING, IT'LL BE REFRESHING...
EH?
I SAID THIS EARLIER ALREADY, DIDN'T I
IT'S WHAT MOM ALWAYS SAID TO US WHEN WE GOT SICK
NO WAY, SO NOW I'VE COME TO SAY THE SAME THING...
WHENEVER I'D HEAR THOSE WORDS, I WOULD THINK "NOT THAT AGAIN" BUT, I'D FEEL REALLY RELIEVED
MOM'S WORDS ARE JUST LIKE A MAGICAL SPELL.
BUT, MOMO BARELY EVER GOT TO HEAR THOSE WORDS BEFORE IT ALL ENDED
POOR CHILD...

UM.. YOU REALLY.. SAVED ME. THANK YOU VERY MUCH
ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT DAY AS NEW YEAR'S EVE,
EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT PART OF YOUR FAMILY, YOU LET ME IN AND TENDED TO ME WITH SUCH CARE
THAT'S NOT TRUE. I'M THE ONE WHO WANTED YOU TO COME. THE ONE WHO WAS SAVED IS ME.
IF YOU WEREN'T HERE,
I ALMOST CERTAINLY WOULD BE BY MYSELF.
CLEANING UP, AND THEN I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN CRYING
SKY... SHE BOSHI... (SCRUB SCRUB...)
H-hey, Kiriyama-kun! Why are you the one crying?
..Ah, really, why me too?
As we were sniffling and frantically trying to find tissues,
we heard the watch-night bell sound on the television.
..And just like that, miserably, this year disappeared into the sky...

Distracted by my own loneliness,
I did not realise other people's loneliness.
The sounds of the watch-night bell piled heavily upon my foolish self.
Like a wide river, flowing slowly,
the new year had arrived.
Chapter 22 end

BE WITH YOU SCANS NOTES

PAGE 016

Umeboshi are dried pickled plums and are extremely sour.

PAGE 021

Like many other households in Japan, the Kawamoto family is watching the NHK's 60th **Kouhaku Uta Gassen**, an annual four hour long New Year's Eve television music show special which splits the year's most popular music artists into competing teams. **maiko** is an allusion to the J-Pop singer aiko, while Ojii-san's favourite, **Ishikawa Sayori** alludes to the prolific enka singer and Kouhaku regular, Ishikawa Sayuri.

PAGE 023

New Year's Eve is the second-most important day in Japanese tradition behind New Year's Day.

Joya no kane, or the **watch-night bell** is a tradition where Buddhist temples throughout Japan ring their bells 108 times to welcome the new year.

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TRANSLATED BY BLAZING_ICE
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
PROOFREAD / QC BY KIWIISH

Chapter 23

Year In

SFX HAHAHAHA (PANICKING)
S SORRY!!
HEY
WHO PUT STICKERS ON MOMMY'S DRAWERS?!
REALLY! THIS IS VERY HARD TO PEEL OFF, YOU KNOW!
Geez
Hmph Hmph
SORRY~

MOM
CHIHIRO
...
A DREAM ?
Rei-chan, good morning ☆
ARE YOU AWAKE, REI-CHAN?
ONEI-CHAN IS CALLING US FOR BREAKFAST
GOOD MORNING
ARE YOU STILL FEVERISH?
I THINK IT'S GONE DOWN A LOT.
I SHOULD BE OKAY NOW.

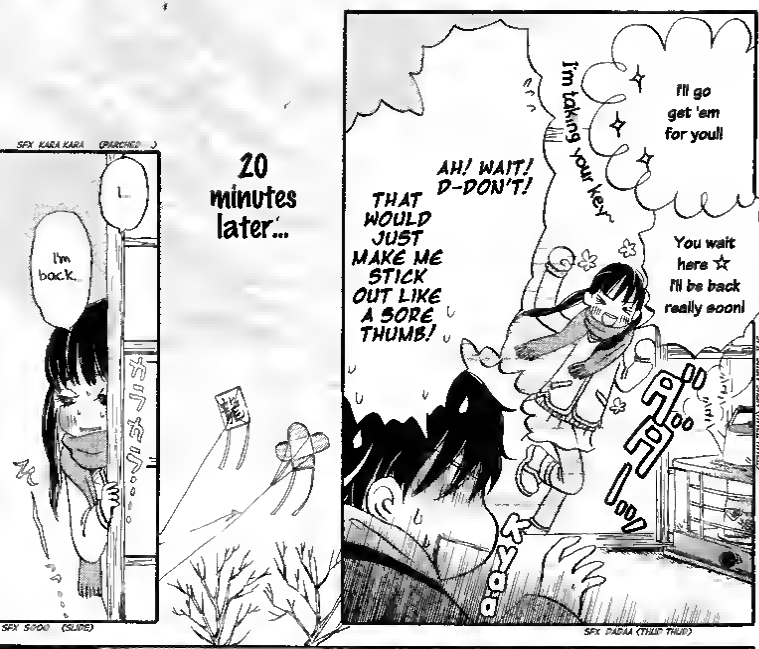
NEWSPAPER: NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS
MARUEI (DEPARTMENT STORE)
FUKUBUKURO
GOOD MORNING.
MORNING
HAPPY NEW YEAR.
AH
A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YA.
KIRIYAMA-KUN, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME OMOCHI? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH IT?
HEY, MOMO, I CAN'T READ THE NEWSPAPER IF YOU'RE LIKE THIS.
SFX: HAA (SIGH)
SFX: BASA (RUSTLE)
There are so many ads in the newspaper!
Wow!!
SFX: ZUSSHIRI (SLUMP)
TELEVISION: NEW YEAR SPECIAL
AH, I GUESS I'LL HAVE CHEESE TOO...
Momo wants cheese!!
I want sweet soy sauce☆

Hm!
HMM... YOU'RE STILL A BIT FEVERISH...
LET ME SEE?
AH...
Your feet will be cold if you're only wearing your pajamas...
COME, GET IN THE KOTATSU!
AND THEN TAKE SOME MEDICINE
WELL, FOR NOW, JUST HAVE SOME FOOD
Nengajou!!
They're here—
Hm!?
That must be the mailman!!
Whmm... Clank
Hot hot
SFX: PRUUN (TWANNG)
SFX: KYUUUU (CHIRRUP)

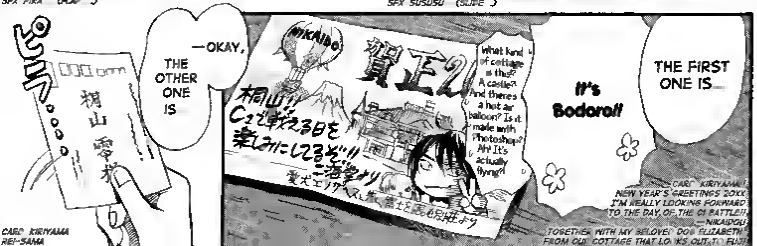
SFX: FUKI FUKI (PUFF PUFF)
AH, THERE'S ONE FOR MOMO TOO
JII-CHAN'S,
ONEI-CHAN'S,
What?
MINE,
MINE,
THIS ONE'S MINE,
ONEI-CHAN'S,
Really?
Hey?
What?
What?
What?
What?
SFX: FUN FUN (HMPH HMPH)

I wonder if we'll win anything from the Otoshidama-nenga ☆
Yuppp☆
HOW IS IT? DID WE GET A LOT?

SFX: WAFU WAFU (PUFF PUFF)
I DON'T THINK THERE WOULD BE ANY
AH, NO...
Ohh right!! There might be some at Rae-chan's place too!! Nengajou!!
OH, MOMO RECEIVED SOME TOO? THAT'S WONDERFUL!
From the nursery school and from the pediatrician
Yeah☆


I'll go get 'em for you!!
You wait here ☆ I'll be back really soon!
I'm taking your key.
AH! WAIT! D-DON'T!
THAT WOULD JUST MAKE ME STICK OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB!
SFX: SHUKU SHUKU (SHAKE SHAKE)
SFX: DADAA (THUD THUD)
20 minutes later...
SFX: KARA KARA (SCRATCH...)
I'm back.
SFX: SOOO (SLIDE)

EH?
I GOT SOME?
I THOUGHT THERE'D BE ZERO.
Two...
Nenga-jou...
Two cards.
You received some—
Erm...
You...
Can't look him in the eye.
SFX: PIRA (FLAP)
SFX: SUSUSU (SLIDE)


—OKAY, THE OTHER ONE IS
0001.bmp
桐山零様
THE FIRST ONE IS...
It's Bodoro!!
What kind of cottage is this? A castle? And there's a hot air balloon? Is it made with Photoshop? Ahh It's actually flying!!
MOKUBA
賀正
桐山!! こと戦う3日を楽しみにしてるぞ!! 一海堂より
CARD: KIRIYAMA-SAMA
CARD: KIRIYAMA NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS 20XX I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY OF THE GI RATTLE!! —NAGAOKA TOGETHER WITH MY BELOVED DOG ELIZABETH FROM OUR COTTAGE THAT LOOKS OUT TO FUJI

SFX: ZUBAAAA! (BUH—BAAM!!)

CARD T[illegible] JAPAN SHOGI ASSOCIATION
WISHING YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR

A fishing ojii-chan?

WHO... IS THIS?

Chair-man...

Um...

He really went and did it...!

I'LL SAY THIS FIRST HE WAS REALLY STRONG, YOU KNOW? THOUGH HE'S ALWAYS BEEN RATHER OFFBEAT.

DESPITE HIS APPEARANCE, HE DID TAKE THE MEIJIN TITLE SEVEN TIMES. WAIT, WHY AM I DEFENDING THIS PERSON!?

What happened to shogi?

Sailfish? Malaysia?

ずばーむっっ

日本将棋連盟

謹春のお慶びを申し上げます

日本将棋連盟会長 第十六世名人

JAPAN SHOGI ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN 16TH HONINBOU MEIJIN

神宮寺崇徳

JINGUUJI TAKANORI

バショウカジキ[190cm]
PEライン3号-200m
リーダー80ポンド
マレーシア沖にて…

CARD BOTTOM LEFT: SAILFISH (190 CM)
PE 3 FISHING LINE – 200 M
LEADER – 80 LB
IN THE OPEN SEAS OF MALAYSIA

SFX: BARA BARA (GRATTLE...)

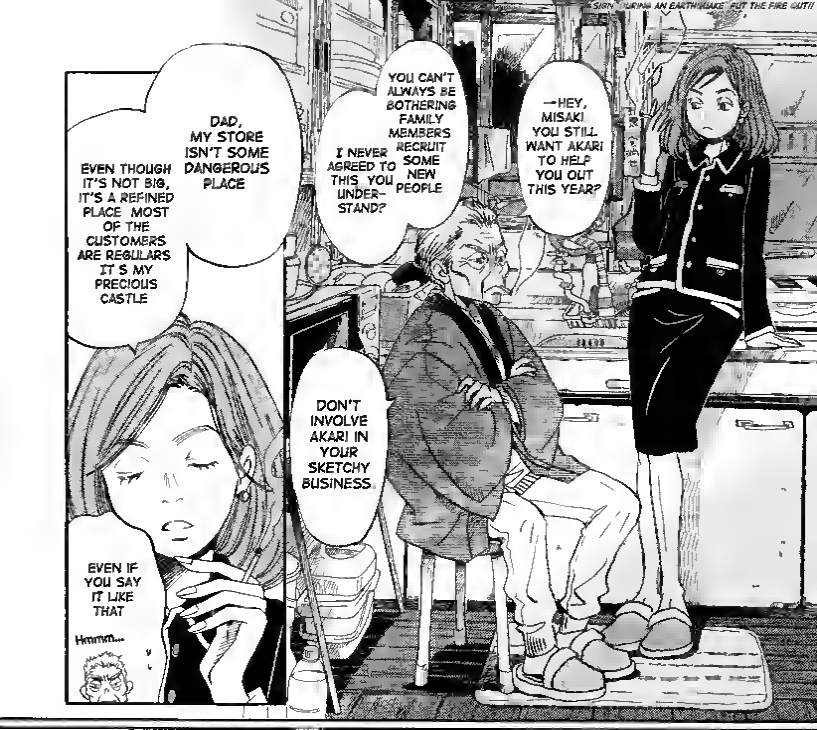
Goood afternoon—

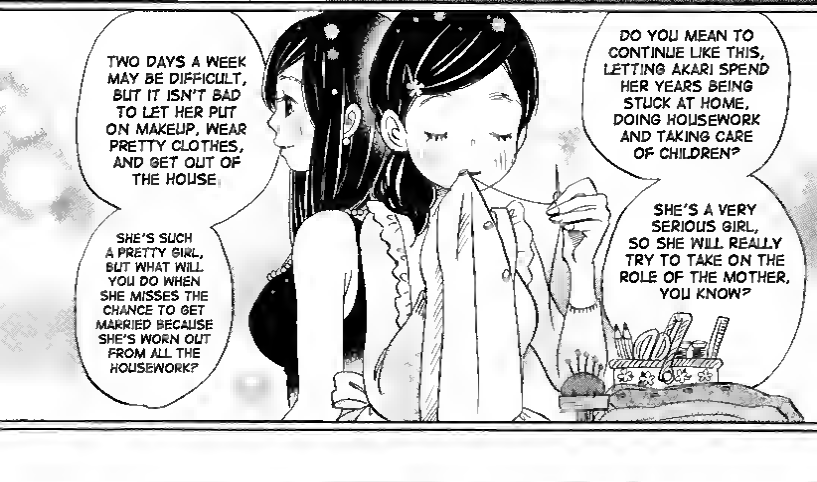
Happy New Year! It's me, Mieaki-oba-chan—

ガラガラ

BAB
NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

MOMO
HINA
THERE ☆
Fanks berry muchie! Kya kya
Whee! What should I buy?
K-yaa Thank you very much!
Ohh, right! Otoshidama ☆
Misaki-obachan, look at Mono's nengayou!!
Pheeew- I feel so relieved!
BEING AT THE IN-LAWS' HAVE MADE MY SHOULDERS ALL STIFF!
AH— IT FEELS GOOD TO BE HOME!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU LIKE TO PRETEND YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN ALL ABOUT APPEAR-ANCES
SFX: KNEAD KNEAD
AKARI, TOO
Eh? Me too?
HERE, OTOU-SAN
Ohh, are you sure, Oba-sama?
OBA-CHAN, PLEASE HAVE SOME TEA
OH MY THANKS☆ WHAT A GOOD GIRL, HINA-CHAN
YOU WERE SO GOOD AT IT
IT'S ALL RIGHT— IT WAS A WHILE AGO, BUT DIDN'T YOU BRING ISSA-SAN AND SMITH-SAN TO OUR STORE? WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU AGAIN☆
Hehe Hehe
Ko-chins
EH? EH? EVEN ME? HOW CAN I ACCEPT...?
I HEARD THAT YOU GOT SICK ON NEW YEAR'S EVE, SO YOU GOT KIDNAPPED BY AKARI HERE?
MR SHOGI.
Even though it's not much☆
—OH RIGHT, I SHOULD GIVE ONE TO YOU TOO☆
SFX: BIKKA (FLASH)
HAPPY NEW YEAR.
MISAKI IS HERE TO VISIT YOU.
MOM, MIKAKO.
HERE.
—THEN, THESE ARE...
Please watch over me this year, too.

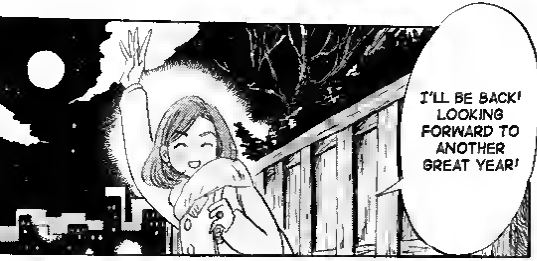

SIRN... DURING AN EARTHQUAKE... PUT THE FIRE OUT!!
DAD, MY STORE ISN'T SOME DANGEROUS PLACE
EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT BIG, IT'S A REFINED PLACE MOST OF THE CUSTOMERS ARE REGULARS IT'S MY PRECIOUS CASTLE
EVEN IF YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT
Hmmm...
I NEVER AGREED TO THIS YOU UNDER-STAND?
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS BE BOTHERING FAMILY MEMBERS RECRUIT SOME NEW PEOPLE
DON'T INVOLVE AKARI IN YOUR SKETCHY BUSINESS
—HEY, MISAKI YOU STILL WANT AKARI TO HELP YOU OUT THIS YEAR?


TWO DAYS A WEEK MAY BE DIFFICULT, BUT IT ISN'T BAD TO LET HER PUT ON MAKEUP, WEAR PRETTY CLOTHES, AND GET OUT OF THE HOUSE
SHE'S SUCH A PRETTY GIRL, BUT WHAT WILL YOU DO WHEN SHE MISSES THE CHANCE TO GET MARRIED BECAUSE SHE'S WORN OUT FROM ALL THE HOUSEWORK?
DO YOU MEAN TO CONTINUE LIKE THIS, LETTING AKARI SPEND HER YEARS BEING STUCK AT HOME, DOING HOUSEWORK AND TAKING CARE OF CHILDREN?
SHE'S A VERY SERIOUS GIRL, SO SHE WILL REALLY TRY TO TAKE ON THE ROLE OF THE MOTHER, YOU KNOW?

SFX: KIRAAN (SPARKLING)
DON'T WORRY.
IN MY STORE, I WON'T LET ANYONE LAY A SINGLE FINGER ON AKARI.
NO... RATHER, I WILL TAKE THEIR MONEY FROM THEM WITHOUT LETTING THEM TOUCH. WHAT I MEAN IS...
BECAUSE THEY "CANNOT TOUCH", THEY GET "DESPERATE" SUCH IS THE MONEY-SPENDING NATURE OF MEN THAT WE SEIZE☆
Baa-san!! Your daughter is a devil! You gave birth to a devil!!!
SFX: HII (EEK!)
SFX: GU (CLENCH)
SFX: TEKKA (BLEEMING)
SFX: PAPAAN (TA-DAA)
WOW, SO AMAZING!! YOU'RE HARDCORE! YOU EVEN MADE OSECHI!?
AND IN MODERN STYLE! IT LOOKS REALLY DELICIOUS.
OUR GOAL WAS TO CREATE A DELICIOUS NEW YEAR'S DISH.
HINA AND I DESIGNED IT TOGETHER. WE GATHERED ALL THE THINGS REPRESENTING GOOD OMENS.
HAVE SOME OF THE MEAL HINA AND I MADE TOGETHER.
OBA-SAMA, WILL YOU STAY FOR DINNER?
OH MY THEN, I'LL TAKE YOU UP ON THAT OFFER. MY HUSBAND WENT TO WATCH SOCCER ANYWAY.

FOR BETTER LUCK WITH MONEY, WE SHOULD HAVE GOLD-COLOURED KINTON, RIGHT?
FOR CHILDREN TO GROW PROPERLY, WE SHOULD HAVE PORK AND BEANS, RIGHT?
USUALLY, IF WE BOUGHT BOTH RED AND WHITE FISH PASTE, WE'D NEVER FINISH IT, SO WE MADE POUNDED FISH CAKE, ALTERNATING RED AND WHITE BALLS ON A SKEWER KIND OF LIKE DANGO, RIGHT?
TO PRAY FOR OJII-CHAN'S LONGEVITY, WE SHOULD HAVE MINI HAMBURGER TURTLES, RIGHT?
IN ORDER TO STAY ROOTED... WE HAVE BURDOCK BEEF ROLLS, RIGHT?
FOR BETTER PROSPECTS, WE SHOULD HAVE KINPIRA LOTUS ROOTS, RIGHT?
I tried cutting wieners into the shape of a fish ☆
Look~
Look~
And then of course there are datemaki and sweet nishiki-tamago...
Osechi... Right... They're all filled with wishes ..
And then bubble gum, okay?
Put some spaghetti in too, okay?
NYA~ YUM
MIKAKO AND OBAA-CHAN USED TO WORK HARD TO MAKE OSECHI, TOO.
Person who only ate.
SO AMAZING, YOU TWO!

THE FEELING OF "WE'RE FINALLY DONE!!" OR "WOW!!☆".
—I CAN STILL REMEMBER THE SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT WE HAD WHEN WE REALLY DID FILL IT UP.
We did it☆
Whee☆
HOW TO SAY THIS... IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE "I MUST FILL IT UP!!"
JUST LOOKING AT THIS OJUUBAKO, I CAN'T HELP IT...
SFX: KIRAKIRA (YEAHOOEY)
...Only after conquering the hassle can one truly possess...
AH—
THE "SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT" AND "HASSLE" GO HAND IN HAND.
I UNDER-STAND.
IT'S INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT TO ACHIEVE THAT "SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT" ON TOP OF YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE.
EXACTLY!!
I REALLY CAN UNDER-STAND. YOU KNOW—
Right?
SFX: FUU (WHEW)

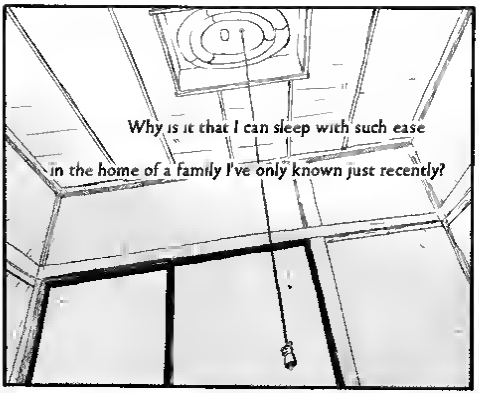

I'LL BE BACK! LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!
THANKS FOR HAVING ME OVER!
ALL RIGHT!

THIS SPACE?
—OH RIGHT, THEN, KIRIYAMA-KUN.
WE NEED THIS SPACE RIGHT NOW, SO COULD YOU GO TO THE SECOND FLOOR?
Onee-chan will wash the dishes!!!
HINA, MOMO, COULD YOU TAKE YOUR BATHS?
OH NO! IT'S THIS LATE ALREADY?!
ボーン ボーン
SFX: BARARA (RATTLING)
SFX: BOON BOON BOON (GOONG GOONG GOONG)
After opening the living room window, a bathroom appears!!
And there isn't even a changing room!!!
RIGHT HERE.
ニヤニヤ
BUT THE TRUTH IS, THE KAWAMOTO BATH IS ..
YES IT MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN THIS,
EHH!?
WHAT THE HELL!?
—BUT, AS THE FAMILY GREW, WE ADDED THIS BATHROOM IN OUR COURTYARD.
A LONG TIME AGO, WE HAD NO BATH, SO OUR FAMILY WOULD GO TO THE RIVERBANK.

GOOD NIGHT!
SORRY, REI-CHAN
Rei-chan, don't look, okaaay? ☆
Ah.
No, I'm the one who should say sorry.
Change of clothes
Towel
G-good night...
Ah. ah....
SINCE WE'RE MOSTLY WOMEN HERE, WE DID WANT TO BUILD A CHANGING ROOM,
BUT IF WE DID BUILD ONE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE ANY COURTYARD LEFT. PLUS, THAT WOULD COST A LOT OF MONEY...
—HOWEVER, IT'S A BIT TROUBLESOME WHEN A GUEST COMES OVER...
HERE

I... I never knew...
THIS FAMILY IS REALLY SOMETHING...
S-s-
Scared me to death...

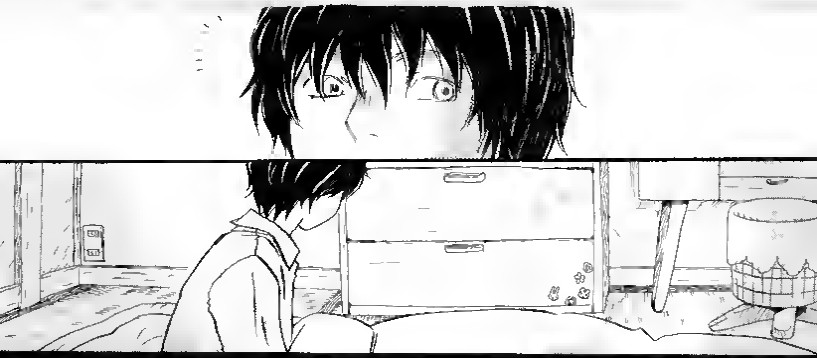
I'VE TAKEN MY MEDICINE, SO...
NOW THEN,



Why do I feel so peaceful when I'm here?

Why did I have such a long-forgotten dream?

Why.



In this old house,

I feel like time, everyone, everything
and even myself,
are all quietly drawn into its embrace, dozing off.
–And just like that, I fell asleep
a sleep that was so deep and peaceful
I don't know how long it's been since I'd last slept like this...
Chapter 23 end

PAGE 033

Otoshidama are small decorated envelopes containing money, customarily given to children. The amount of money can vary greatly between families or the age of the recipient.

PAGE 035

Osechi, shortened from osechi-ryouri, are a special selection of dishes associated with New Year celebrations. There are many variations of osechi, differing by region across Japan.

PAGE 036

Kinpira is a Japanese cooking technique of sautéing and simmering. It features soy sauce and mirin and is most commonly used to cook root vegetables, seaweed, or tofu.

Kinton is a dish of sweet potatoes and sweetened chestnuts.

Datemaki is a sweet rolled omelette mixed with fish paste or mashed shrimp.

Nishiki-tamago is an egg roulade. The separated yolks symbolize gold, and the egg whites represent silver.

PAGE 037

Juubako are sets of tiered lacquered boxes similar to bento boxes for more formal, traditional occasions.

PAGE 038

In Japanese homes, toilets and barhs are typically separated into different rooms and may be in entirely different areas.

After opening the living room window...
a bathroom appears!
And there isn't even a changing room!!
RIGHT HERE!
BUT THE TRUTH IS, THE KAWAMOTO BATH IS
YES. IT MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN THIS.
WHAT THE HELL!?

BE WITH YOU SCANS NOTES

PAGE 028

MOCHI is a glutinous rice cake eaten year-round, but especially during New Year's.

FUKUBUKURO is a "lucky" mystery bag of goods containing random items sold at substantial discounts on New Year's.

PAGE 029

A **KOTATSU** is a low table with a heavy blanket skirt and an electric heater underneath. They are often the centre of family life in homes during cold months.

NENGAJOU are New Year's postcards. The Japanese mail nengajou to friends and relatives, similar to the Western custom of sending Christmas cards.

PAGE 030

OTOSHIDAMA-NENGA is short for "Otoshidama-Tsuki Nenga Hagaki". On the back of Japan Post's popular prepaid blank nengajou postcards are lottery numbers, the prizes for which are often stamps.

March Comes in Like a Lion

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PUBLISHED BY HAKUSENSHA (2009/08)
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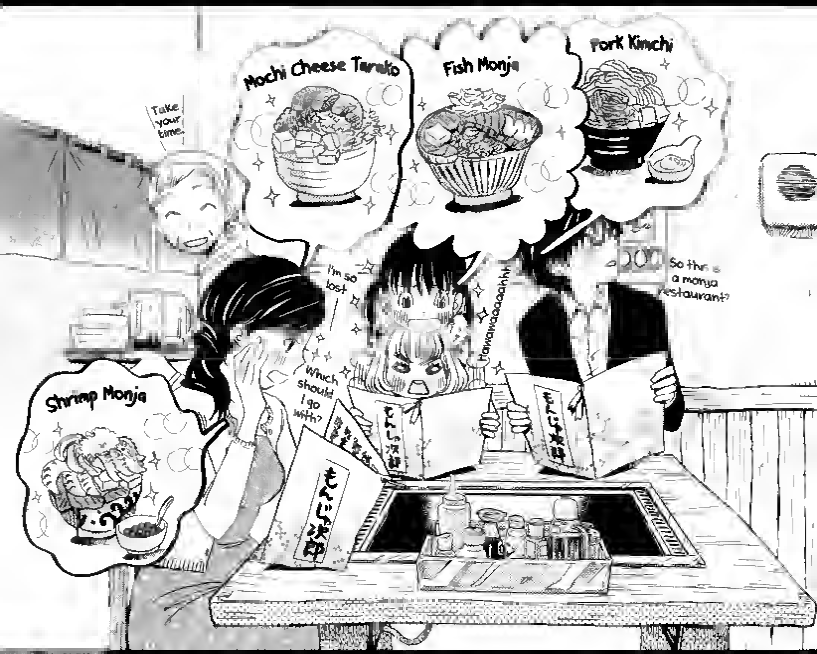
TRANSLATED BY KEW10210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY MARIS & TAI

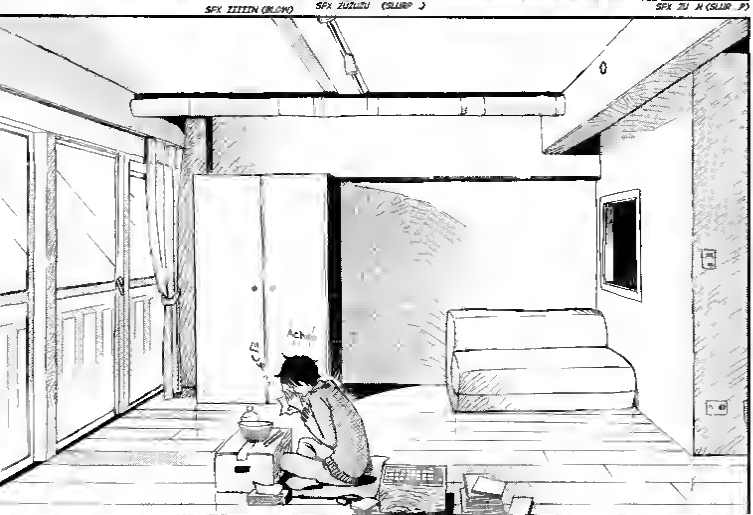


Chapter 24

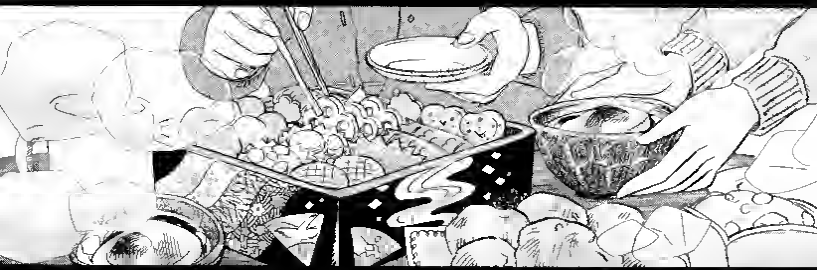
What Lies on the Other Shore

SFX KODOO (WHOOSH...)
By third day of the new year,
I had regained my health
It's now been a few days
since I returned to my home
SFX BARIRI (RIIP)
BOTTLE 17 TEA
BAG MISO RAMEN

AH...
CHOO
ズズズ
ズー
SFX IIIIIN (BLOW)
SFX ZUZUZU (SLURP)
SFX ZU N (SLUR P)


Achoo!

It feels so strange.



Up until the day before yesterday

It was so, so

busy, but now.....

BZZ
BZZZZ
BZZ
BNNN
TICK
Was the clock always this noisy?
Huh? Was the air conditioner... always this loud?
BZZZZ
...Ah.
Crap.

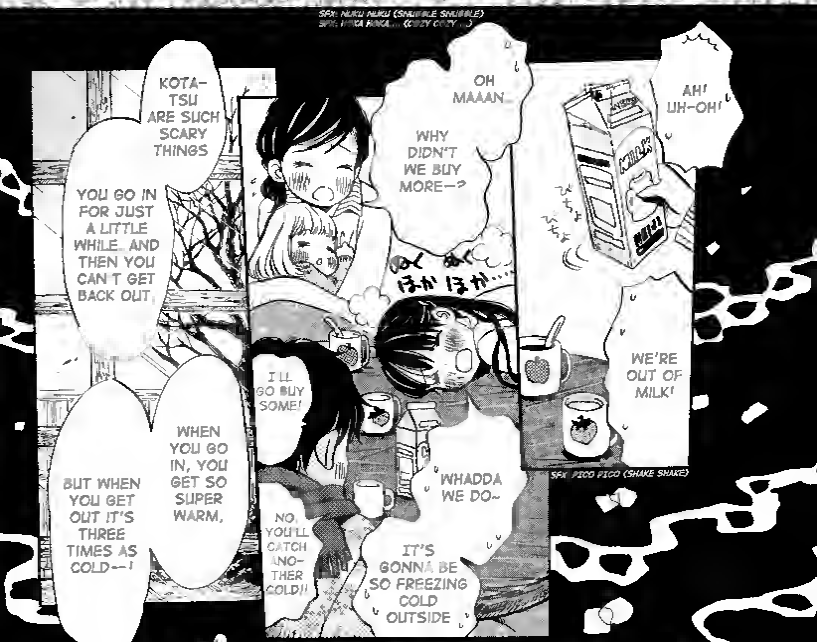
Walk.

This is bad.
But
I know I know it,
If I say that name out loud
I can't make eye contact.
I know this feeling.
but I must not think of her name.
an attack will come
that will tear away at my insides.

Don't think, just walk.

If you stop, you

won't be able to move anymore.


SFX: NUKU NUKU (SQUIRM, SQUIRM)
SFX: HIGA HIGA... (CHILLY CHILLY...)
KOTA-TSU ARE SUCH SCARY THINGS
YOU GO IN FOR JUST A LITTLE WHILE... AND THEN YOU CAN'T GET BACK OUT.
BUT WHEN YOU GET OUT IT'S THREE TIMES AS COLD--!
WHEN YOU GO IN, YOU GET SO SUPER WARM,
OH MAAAN...
WHY DIDN'T WE BUY MORE--?
I'LL GO BUY SOME!
NO, YOU'LL CATCH ANO-THER COLD!!
WHADDA WE DO~
IT'S GONNA BE SO FREEZING COLD OUTSIDE
AH! UH-OH!
MILK
WE'RE OUT OF MILK!
SFX: PIOO PIOO (SHAKE SHAKE)

--I know it's cliché, but you really just can't not go into one.

Right?

I mean,

it's warm

and pleasant.

That house is
just like a kotatsu...
—That's it.
When you go inside
it's so warm it feels like you'll melt,
and it's so cosy
But when you leave
you'll be reminded that
your everyday life that felt fine before
is freezing cold

When I think about it too deeply, I get so frightened that my body turns cold– but

Right First, assess the situation
Calm down
What should I do?
I don't know, but I've gotta think.
I have three more rank-deciding matches this season. Right now, my record is 4 wins and 3 losses
I've lost my chance to raise my rank, but I still should get back into form to lead into next year...
And there are title matches too–

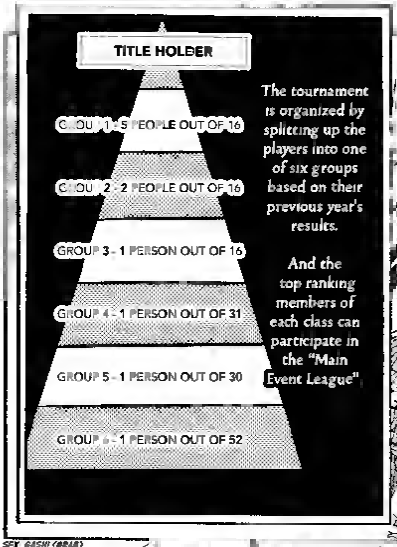
if I stop thinking and come to a halt, I'll be checkmated

If my victories continue to decrease, eventually

Right now, I've got to concentrate on that!!
is the impending "Challenger Deciding Tournament for the Shishi Ou Championship"
the one thing I'm progressing towards at the moment

I won't have any place to belong.

And that's the one thing I can never ever let happen!!!


TITLE HOLDER
GROUP 1 - 5 PEOPLE OUT OF 16
GROUP 2 - 2 PEOPLE OUT OF 16
GROUP 3 - 1 PERSON OUT OF 16
GROUP 4 - 1 PERSON OUT OF 31
GROUP 5 - 1 PERSON OUT OF 30
GROUP 6 - 1 PERSON OUT OF 52
The tournament is organized by splitting up the players into one of six groups based on their previous year's results.
And the top ranking members of each class can participate in the "Main Event League"

The Shishi Ou Championship.
That's the tournament sponsored by Japan's biggest newspaper.
It's on par with the Meijin Championship. One of the two big titles.

But other than that, the reason the shogi players really get pumped up is !
Because of the huge sponsors it gets, it's much larger in scale than other shogi tournaments and the degree of attention society gives it is higher
GOOD MORNING.
GOOD MORNING.

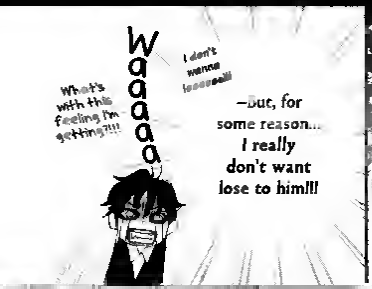
My opponent is Tsuji Takeshi 9th dan.

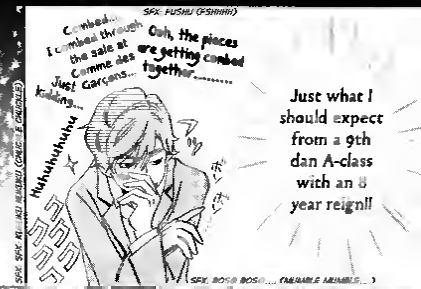
*He's a shogi player with great attacking power... **In more ways than one...***

–But what was most impressive was that even with this massive amount of coldness to him, he had such

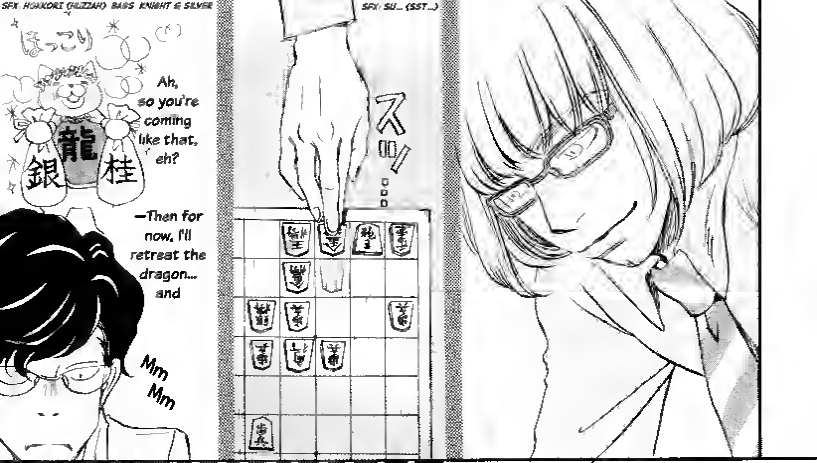
S..... STROOOOONG!!!

STRENGTH!!!




SFX: FUSHU (FSHHH)
Combat... I combat through the sale at Comme des Just Garçons... Kidding...
Ooh, the pieces are getting combed together.....
Fuhuhuhuhu
Just what I should expect from a 9th dan A-class with an 8 year reign!!

+B-4b
G3b-4b
+R-2a
It's a little confined, but the big thing here is— if I sacrifice my bishop to take the silver...
—But, does that "not lose him anything" .....?
Is it a trap?
He's bringing out his bishop?
What?
SMITH'S OPPONENT
YOKOMIZO OKUYASU 7TH DAN
CATS: ROOK > DRAGON
And I'm in enemy territory!! I can promote my rook, can't I?
SFX: PYON PYON (JINGLE JINGLE)
Isn't that knight free?
(※IMAGINATION)
SFX: BAACHI (SMACK)
As my mastery once said: "Women may betray you, but maternal gain never will."
Even if I do sacrifice the bishop, I'm getting both a knight and a silver in exchange. And on top of that, my rook becomes a dragon!!
The only move I've got is to take the knight, right?
Ooookay!!!


SFX: HOKKORI (HUZZAH) BABS: KNIGHT & SILVER
SFX: SU... (SST...)
Ah, so you're coming like that, eh?
—Then for now, I'll retreat the dragon... and
Mm Mm

SFX: KUSSARI (STAB)
So—...
PAWN
Poisoned Chestnut
Huh?
SFX: SU (SST...)
—Huh? What is this?!
SFX: TOSU... (THUMP...)
SFX: FUUU (PHOO...)

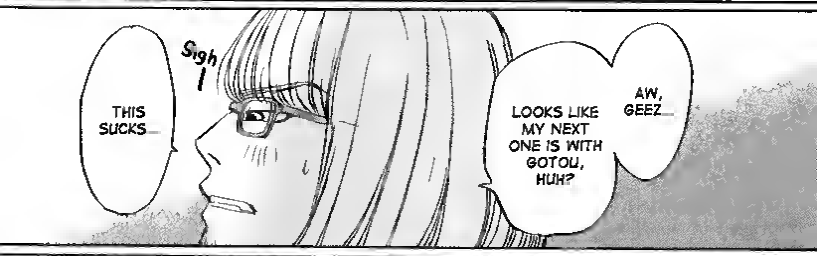
The castle's on fire... ...plus my back is kinda stabbed...
Chestnut
PAWN
—Wait, this means...
it's already over?
Take the ze pawn and
+R-2h
B-4f
+R-2h
+R-3h
-2h
and you're in trouble...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SINCE WHEN? AH, FROM THE BISHOP?
OR FURTHER BACK?
MAN, WHAT WAS THAT?
WHAT IS THIS. IT'S CRAZY...
HUUH?
HA HAHA
I LOST?
I
HA HAHA
Yokomizu-sh! While you did gain the knight and the silver, you lost your life at the 2h location...
SMITH'S MYSTERIOUS DUNGEON
END
SEX PYO ROBARSKA (OUH~ POPADIA)
AREN'T YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF A GAME?
BUT, HEY, YOU TWO,
THANK YOU
Focus on your own board.
Hey, hey
YEAH, YEAH.
Well, well..
Ho ho.
WITHOUT THINKING...
OOOH!!

Please.!
I'm at my limit... (In more ways than one)
Just, stop it there. (Spare me.)
Absolute limit
Ooh
SHOWAT... SHOWER CAP ?
BUT TODAY YOU HAD ME COMPLETELY SHUTOUT SHOTOU...
...IS WHAT I'D LIKE TO BE SAYING
Hua hua
IT WAS A DRAW...
BECAUSE IT WAS SUCH A MESSY DRAWN OUT MATCH
Huh hu
Low voice

■ Kiryama 5th-dan	☖ Tsuji 9th dan
■ P-7f	☖ S-8h
☖ P-3d	☖ S-2b
■ P-2f	■ S-4h
☖ G-3b	☖ S-3c
■ P-2e	■ P-1f
☖ B-h8+	☖ P-1d
OMITTED	
☖ S-2b	☖ K-3d
■ L-3h	■ S-3d
☖ P-7g	☖ S-3c
■ S-3c+	■ G-3c

until move 187 where Kiryama 5th-dan wins

—AND FOR ME, TOO, AT THE END OF A QUAGMIRE RENDEZVOUS ON THE 187TH MOVE, I NARROWLY CLAIMED VICTORY.



HE MAKES YOU MAKE MISTAKES JUST FROM SITTING IN FRONT OF HIM... I MEAN...
UH
SPEAK OF THE DEVIL...
THAT OLD MAN IS FREAKING SCARY.
Sigh
YOU KNOW? I MEAN, HE'S GOT A TOTAL YAKUZA VIBE GOING ON.

Chapter 24 end

UMIMU

3月のライオン

In Japanese shogi notation, captures and drops are not indicated, but in the international notation they usually are, replacing the "-" with an "x" or an "*" for captures and drops respectively. Given that these games use the Japanese notation and are typically shown in a limited context, it can be difficult or impossible to know for certain if a move is a capture or a drop. Thus, we will only be indicating "-" for all moves, regardless of captures or drops; no more and no less what the Japanese notation indicates.

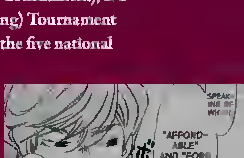
BE WITH YOU SCANS NOTES

PAGE 051

Shishi Ou Tournament (Lion King Tournament), is a parody of the real Ryuu Ou (Dragon King) Tournament organized by Yomiuri Shimbun, one of the five national newspapers of Japan.

PAGE 053

The original phrases are "tekisei kakaku" (reasoned price) and "esutee kagaku" (S.T. Science), a parody of the Japanese household cleaning supplies and consumer chemical company S.T. Corporation.



PAGE 054

Comme des Garçons is a prestigious Japanese fashion label.

PAGE 058

In the original Japanese, Tsuji warps the word "kanpun" meaning "shutout" into "kanpu-masatsu" meaning "rubbing down with a dry towel".

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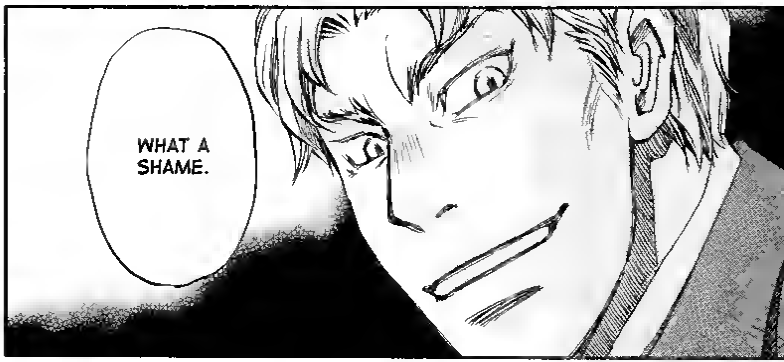
TRANSLATED BY KEW10210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY MARIS

Chapter 25

Black River (PART 1)

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN KEEPING WELL.


WHAT A SHAME.

THAT'S RIGHT.
IF WE BOTH KEEP IT UP, YOU AND I WILL RUN INTO EACH OTHER...
WELL,
I'LL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
THOUGH BEATING YOU WITH MY BARE FIRSTS AGAIN
IS A LITTLE TEMPTING TOO
.....

AH
ACT-UALLY
I HAVE A MESSAGE
FOR HER FATHER.

I LOVE HIM
TO GIVE UP ALREADY.
GOTOU GAVE IT TO ME NOT TOO LONG AGO
I LOVE HIM A LOT
TELL HIM TO TELL THAT STALKER GIRL
SFX: GU (CLENCH)
SHE'S JUST A PAIN IN THE ASS
TO ME.

HOLD ON, HOLD ON!
KIRIYAMA!
WHAT?! WAAAAH—
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
SFX: BASHI (GRAB)
AND YOU, TOO, GOTOU-SAN,
IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY TO KOUDA-SAN. PLEASE SAY IT YOURSELF
SFX: JITATABA (SHUFFLE)
PLEASE, CONSIDER THE POSITION OF A NEWCOMER
SFX: GUI (GRIP)
HEEEEEY
IS THERE ANYONE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR? THE FISHING BOAT IS HERE—
KYAAAH, Chairman!!
Please don't take out the fish here!
Okay okay Kuriyama, calm down...
And now we've got another bother-some guy making an appear-ance.
SIGH
SFX: GIGI (NGH...)

HMPH
THAT NOISY GUY'S BACK...
I'M GOING FIRST.
GIVE MY REGARDS TO KODA
KYAA
He-
He gives off like a heavy-weight sorta vibe, doesn't he?
He's so scaryyyy!
Heavy and persistent.
If that guy is petroleum, somebody like me is salad dressing.
And I'm already pretty tight.
SO...
WHAT WAS THAT? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND GOTOU?
IS EVERY-THING OKAY?
THAT GUY DID SAY SOMETHING KINDA DIS-TURBING, BUT...
IT'S OKAY!
YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE GUY WHO MADE THE BIGGEST CATCH, YOU KNOW!

Some people are still in matches!
Chairman! Shhhh!
WHADDA YA THINK? IT'S 62 CM!!
Hey- what's goin' on? You guys look down!
Whoops! sorry- sorry-
Shh-
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO GULPING DOWN SOME HOT SAKE WITH SASHIMI?!
SFX: PAAASH (SMACK)
SFX: PA-PA-PA-
Back' ground music [Seihin kesatsu theme song]
JAPAN SHOGI ASSOCIATION
YA CAN PACK IN ALL YOU WANT!!
AH, AND AFTER THAT, CALL THE SHOGI WORLD EDITORIAL COMMITTEE FROM DOWN-STAIRS!!
HEY, NAKAMURA-KUN!! BRING SOME ZIPLOCK BAGS!!
TAKE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!!
Could you please introduce me to a girl that would prepare them for me instead, Chairman?
You look like some-body's dealt of some-thing.
What's with those hearstrap sun-glasses?
I CAN'T. ONE MAN LIVING ALONE CAN'T FINISH ALL THAT.
Earnestly
HOW 'BOUT 40 SARDINES, SMITH?!

Nakamura-kuuun! Are these all the ziplocks we have?
HIS WIFE IS STILL IN THE HOSPITAL.
AH, IS THAT SO...
SINCE HE'S MARRIED
GOTOU-SAN SHOULD'VE TAKEN SOME OF THESE BACK WITH HIM.
Ah, geez... There's so many.
SFX: DUCCHART (TA-DA)
.....
.....
.....
.....
OOO-
KAY.
I'LL TAKE THESE BLUISH ONES..
WHAT'S THAT STUFF CALLED, DHA?
IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR BRAIN IT WAS REALLY POPULAR A WHILE BACK

KIRIYAMA-KUN
AHHHHH!
YAY
SFX: GO (WHACK)
WELL, GOOD-NIGHT, EVERYBODY
OKAY, SEE YOU.
I SHOULD GET GOING, TOO
WHILE I'M GETTING READY FOR PLAYING GOTOU IN TWO WEEKS, I'LL EAT THESE UP AND FIGURE OUT A COUNTER-PLAN
SFX: KASA KASA (RUSTLE RUSTLE...)
SFX: BOSO BOSO BOSO (MUTTER MUTTER MUTTER...)
SFX: BOSO (MUTTER)
Hmm?
SFX: BOSO (MUTTER...)
So you've been going over to her beautiful niece's place quite a bit, hmm?
Hey, I heard from the mama at Misaki's.
that Akari-chan has lots of guys that go to see her, right?!
Ow.
Ow ow ow.
Hey, make sure you keep this a secret, okay? I heard from our company purveyor
SFX: GUGUGU (GRIP GRIP GRIP...)

SFX: GATAN GOTOTON (RATTLE RATTLE)
SFX: ZUSSHIRI (HEAVY)
SFX: KOSO KOSO (WHISPER WHISPER...)
SFX: MOHAAAN
SFX: ZUSSHIRI (HEAVY)
SINCE SHE'S BEEN TAKING CARE OF YOU, WHY DON'T YOU BRING HER SOME?!
THE MAMA WAS BOASTING ABOUT HOW GOOD A COOK SHE WAS
Ah!
These seem like a lot of trouble to prepare... What do I do if she thinks it's bothersome?
I ended up being forced to take this much
What's with the fishy smell?
Ew
I'm scared that I won't be able get myself to leave the warmth.
So I was thinking "I'll try not to come again for a while"...
It's so warm in there it feels like you'll melt
It's so comfortable, this house is kind of
like a hot tea.
...And I ended up back here again.
Kyaa Kyaa
Hahaha~

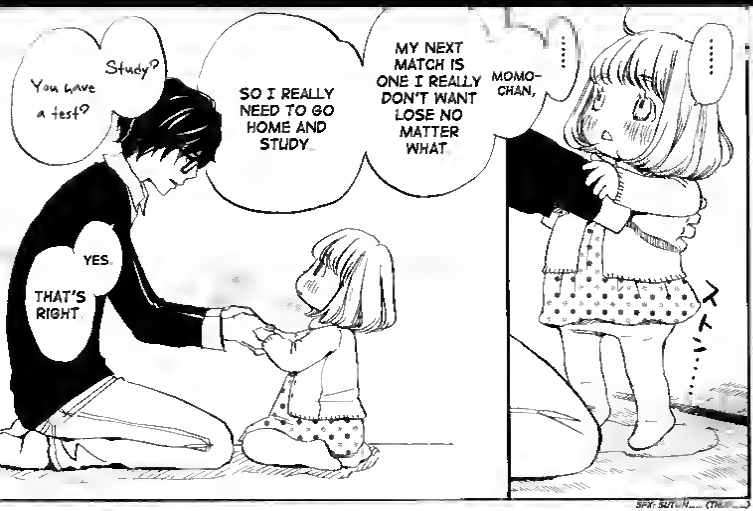
SFX: FURUI FURUI (TREMBLE TREMBLE)
KYAA—☆
I'll fillet the black rockfish into three pieces, make it into karaage, and use it for tomorrow's bentos.
Are you sure?! Really?!
SFX: KOSHIKA (THIGHS)
I'll fillet the flounder into five pieces and make kombu-jime and sashimi, and um... um...
I'll cut open the sardines and preserve them for pizza and pasta!!
EVERYBODY'S ALREADY EATEN TODAY
THEY'RE ALL JUST LEFTOVERS IS THAT OKAY?
Chinese cabbage and aburaage miso soup
Lotus root and carrot kinpira.
Eggs broken over warm rice
SFX: HOKA HOKA (HOT HOT)
BUT NOW, WE CAN EAT DELICIOUS THINGS AGAIN STARTING TOMORROW!
WE WERE JUST SAYING THAT WE ATE TOO EXTRAVAGANTLY DURING NEW YEARS, SO WE WERE GOING TO TRY TO LIVE FRUGALLY FOR A WHILE
I'm so happy! ☆ Thank yooou (tear)
Aah, now maybe I'll save several days worth of food expenses!!
Stand Alone
STREAMLINED
SFX: BISHI (SMOOSH)

SFX: PAPOPOPO (GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG...)
REE-CHAN, BET YOU MUST BE GLAD YOUR COLD WENT AWAY ☆
YOUR STUFFY NOSE VOICE IS FINALLY GONE.
Thanks for taking such good care of me during the new year! I really appreciate it.
There is a soba tea bag directly inside the evil robot
SFX: PO...
Eggs mixed into rice is so goooood!!!
Soooo goooood!
Eheheh, I'm sorry we don't really have anything.
It's not nothing!!
All it has is egg and shoyu on it
Why is it so delicious?!
SFX: KULKUH
SFX: HOKA HOKA (HOT HOT)

Wanna put it together with us tomorrow?
Hey, uh, we just got this jigsaw puzzle from the old lady next door. It's 1000 pieces.
Let's do that! Tomorrow's Saturday.
GOOD IDEA!!
Hey, Hey, Ree-chan!
Will you sleep with Momo-chan tonight?

It's warm...

A warm kotatsu-like house.


You have a test?
Study?
YES. THAT'S RIGHT.
SO I REALLY NEED TO GO HOME AND STUDY.
MY NEXT MATCH IS ONE I REALLY DON'T WANT LOSE NO MATTER WHAT.
MOMO-CHAN,
.....
.....

MOMO
IT'S A TEST WHERE I NEED TO SHOW BOTH MY OPPONENT AND MYSELF HOW HARD I'VE WORKED.
THEN, DON'T YOU HAVE SOME-THING TO SAY TO REI-CHAN?
Rei-chan said he has a test right?
Why?
THAT'S RIGHT.
AND WHAT DO YOU SAY WHEN SOMEONE HAS SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
YOU SAY "DO YOUR BEST!!"
RIGHT?

I'LL DO MY BEST.
First, Smith-san is up against Gotou
Rei-chan!! Do your best!☆
OKAY
The two winners
I'm up against Shimada 8th dan —And

The wind rings

raising a scream from the harp bridge.

while he was left without a scratch...
Last time, I was completely beaten
SFX: OOOOOO (ROOOAR)
But I won't be powerless upon the shoot board.
オオオオオ
Chapter 25 end

PAGE 071 CONTINUED

DARIUS is a shoot 'em up arcade game first released in 1986.

ABURAAGE is tofu cut into thin slices and deep fried twice. It is often used to wrap rice to make inari-zushi, or added to udon to make kitsune udon.

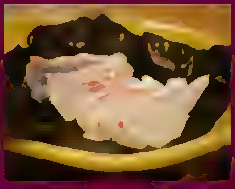
BE WITH YOU SCANS NOTES

PAGE 067

Seibu Keisatsu (Police: Western Division) was a television drama series that ran from 1979 to 1984.

PAGE 069

Mama here refers to the "mama-san" of Misaki's bar in Ginza. The term is often used for a woman in charge of a drinking establishment such as a bar, nightclub, geisha house, or an upscale prostitution house.



PAGE 071

Kombu-jime is a popular method of preparing sashimi or sushi were sliced raw fish is wrapped or sandwiched between kombu and cured for several hours.

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RAW PURCHASED & SCANNED BY MARIS
TRANSLATED BY KEWL0210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY MARIS & PANDA

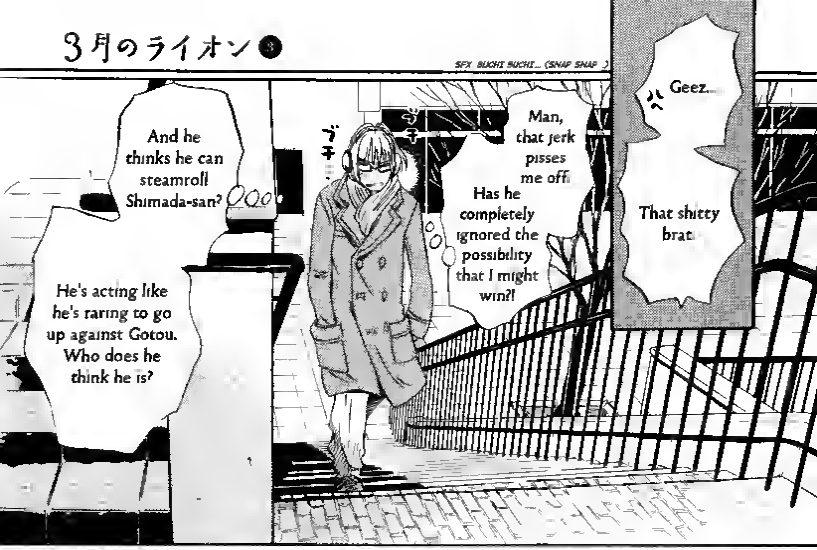
Chapter 26

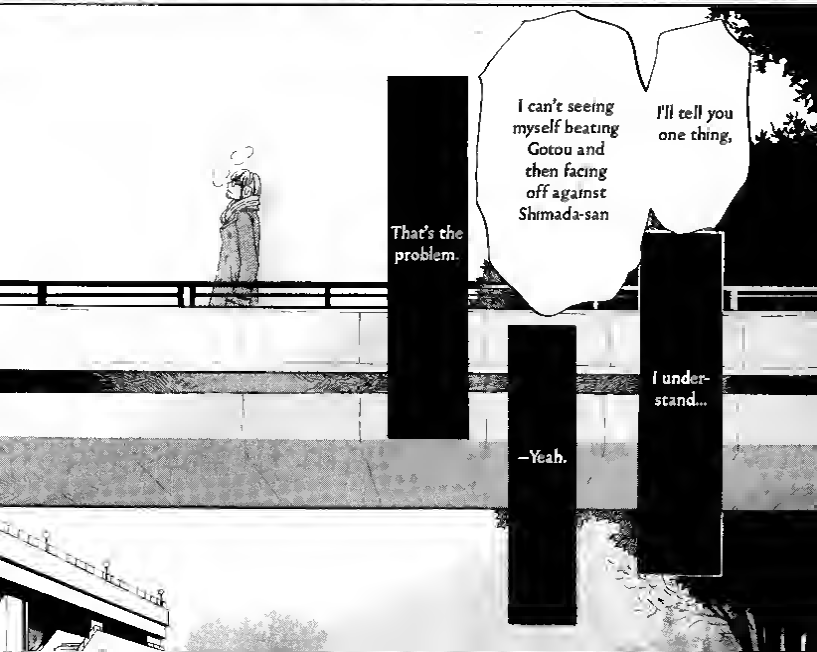
Black River (PART 2)

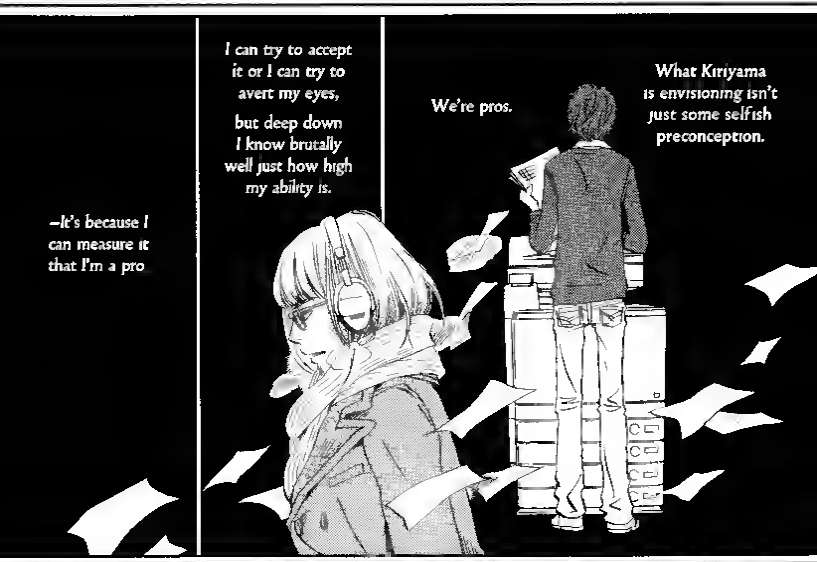
FROM URANO MASAHIKO'S "5-MOVE CHECKMATE HANDBOOK" (JAPAN SHOGI ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS)

■ N-3D
□ K-3B
■ B-3A
PROMOTES
□ K-1B
THEN
■ R-2C
PROMOTES
■ B-2C
□ K-2B
■ B-1B
PROMOTES
SFX: GUSHA (CRUMPLE)
□ K-3A
THEN
■ G-4B
—OKAY. BETTER GET GOING...
SFX: GASASA... (RUSTLE...)

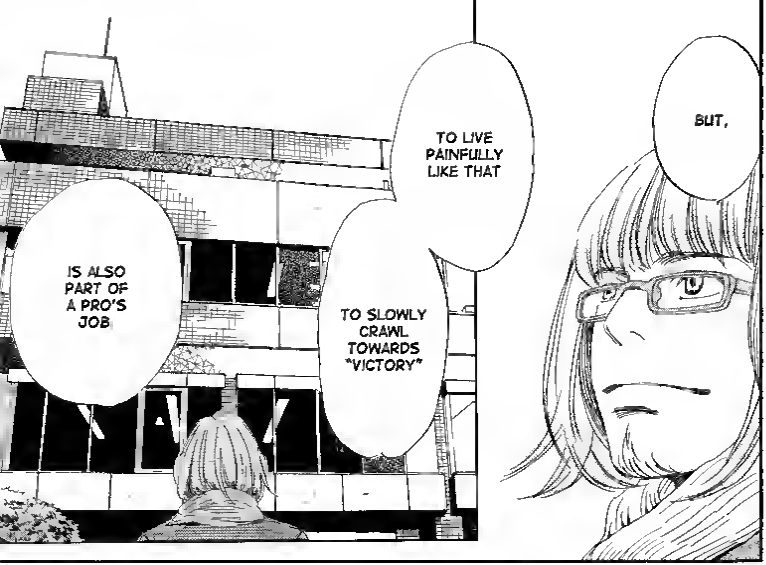
Since then, I've seen Kiriyama just once at the shogi hall.
The kifu that Kiriyama had
dan's games
I thought about talking to him,
–but when I saw that serious look on his face, I decided not to.
He was reading over kifu and making copies of them.
and Gotou 9th dan's games–
of theirs...


SFX: BUSHI BUCHI... (SNAP SNAP...)
Geez...
That shitty brat.
Man, that jerk pisses me off.
Has he completely ignored the possibility that I might win?!
And he thinks he can steamroll Shimada-san?
He's acting like he's raring to go up against Gotou. Who does he think he is?


I'll tell you one thing,
I can't seeing myself beating Gotou and then facing off against Shimada-san
That's the problem.
I understand...
—Yeah.

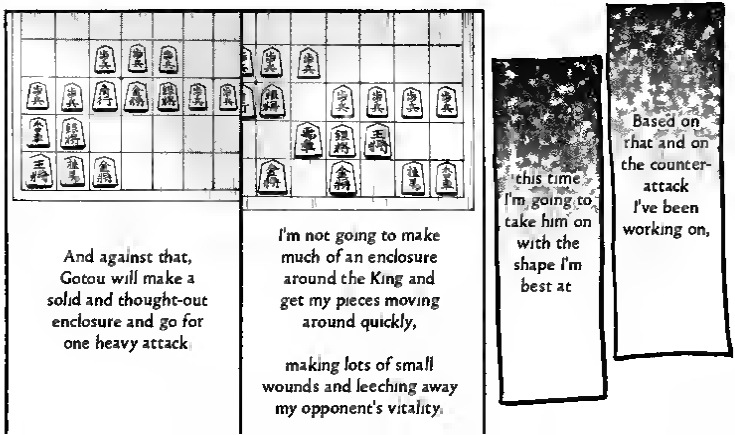

–It's because I can measure it that I'm a pro
I can try to accept it or I can try to avert my eyes,
but deep down I know brutally well just how high my ability is.
We're pros.
What Kiriyama is envisioning isn't just some selfish preconception.

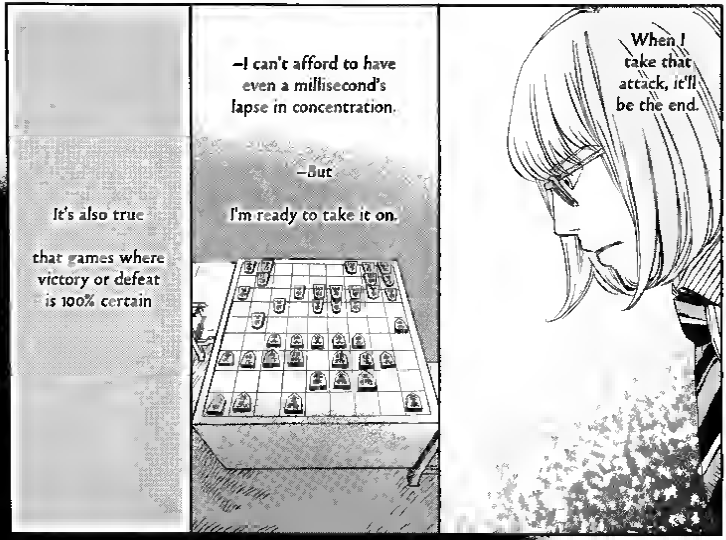
just how it is
And that's
"I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING,
I CAN'T SEE MYSELF BEATING GOTOU AND THEN FACING OFF AGAINST SHIMADA-SAN."
There are people that go in thinking "I don't know if I'll win",
and there are people that think "I could possibly win" or whatever


BUT,
TO LIVE PAINFULLY LIKE THAT
TO SLOWLY CRAWL TOWARDS "VICTORY"
IS ALSO PART OF A PRO'S JOB

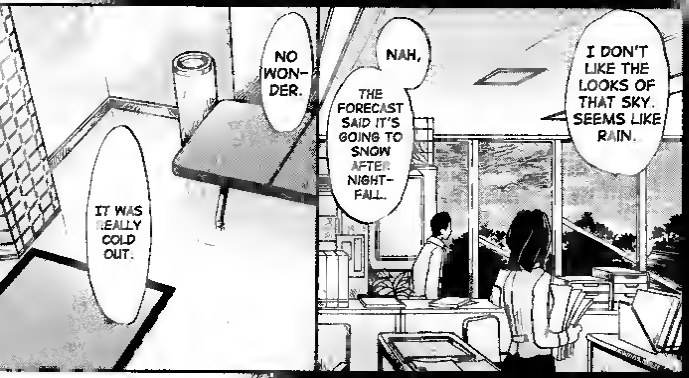
my characteristics are more "light" and "thin".
If Gotou is "heavy" and "hard",
The formations Gotou uses are Static Rook and Anaguma.
So against that, I'll use Kazaguruma
BNY'S NOTES: 'KAZAGURUMA', OR 'PINWHEEL'S STRATEGY', IS NAMED FOR HOW IT PULLS THE ROOK IN TO THE LOWER RANKS AND CAN GO LEFT AND RIGHT IN A MOUNTAIN-ABOUT MOTION.

SFX: PACHI (TAP)
Last time, in anticipation of Gotou using a solid enclosure to make it a drawn-out battle, I formed a thick enclosure around my King
but I ended up in a formation where the "lightness" I always placed my faith on was was burdened by armour. I wasn't used to it.
And it resulted in my overwhelming defeat.
This is my second time against Gotou-
EVERY-ONE, PLEASE BEGIN.
HAVE GOOD MATCHES.

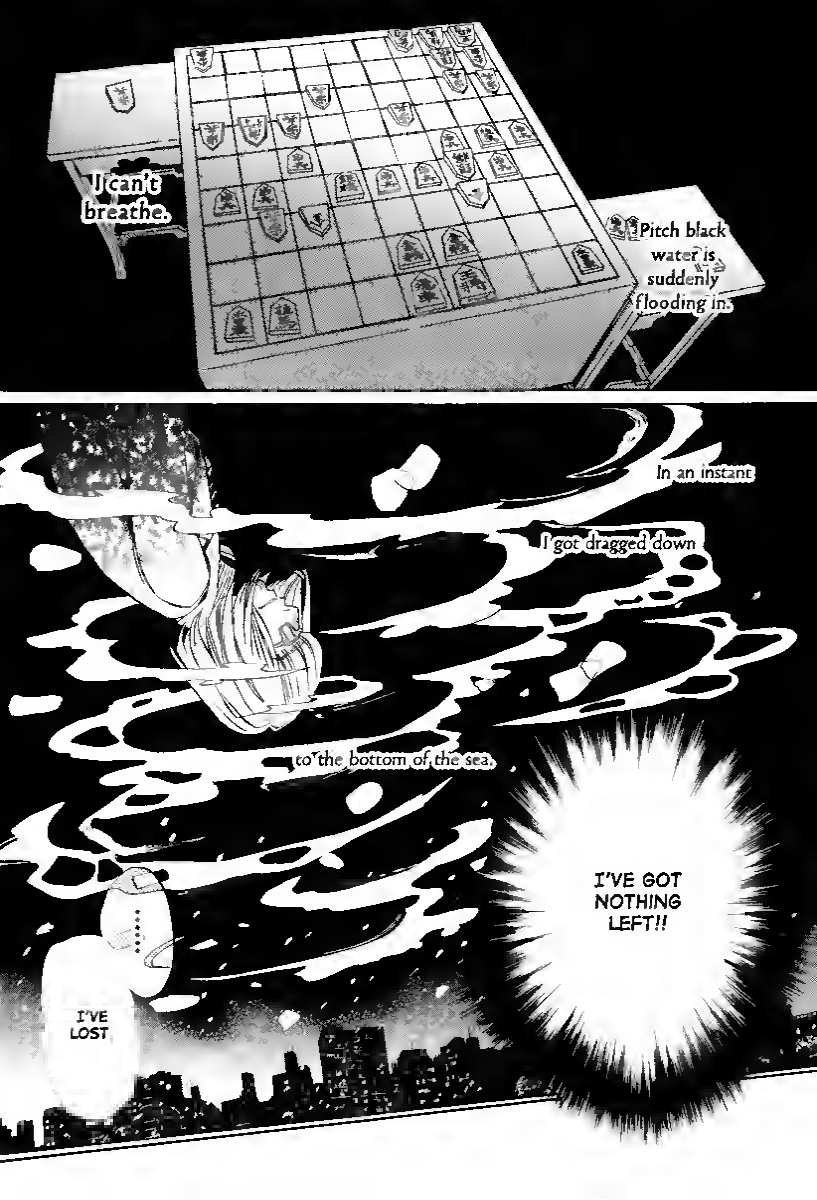

And against that, Gotou will make a solid and thought-out enclosure and go for one heavy attack.
I'm not going to make much of an enclosure around the King and get my pieces moving around quickly,
making lots of small wounds and leeching away my opponent's vitality.
this time I'm going to take him on with the shape I'm best at
Based on that and on the counter-attack I've been working on,


When I take that attack, it'll be the end.
–I can't afford to have even a millisecond's lapse in concentration.
–But
I'm ready to take it on.
It's also true
that games where victory or defeat is 100% certain

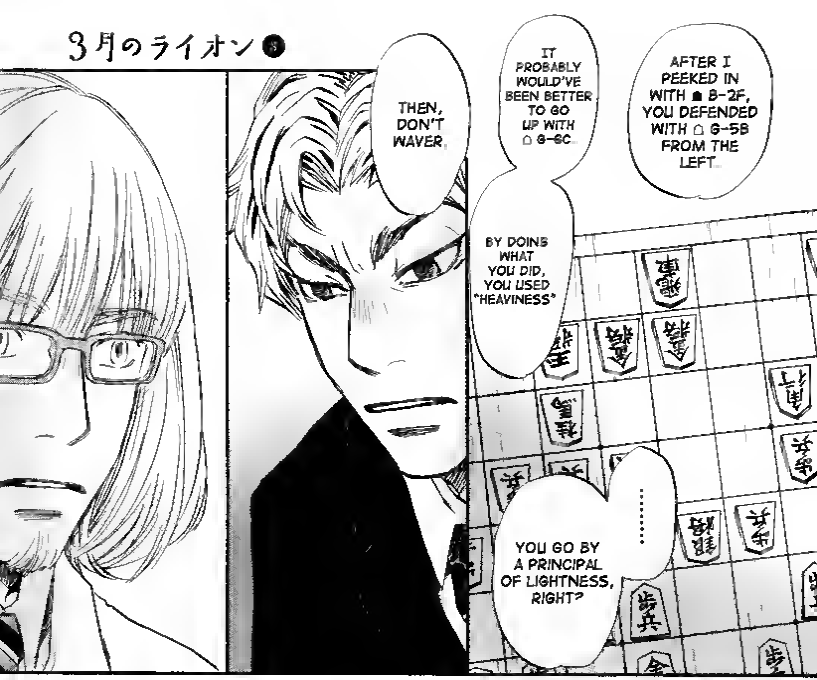
never exist between fellow pros.


I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THAT SKY. SEEMS LIKE RAIN.
NAH,
THE FORECAST SAID IT'S GOING TO SNOW AFTER NIGHT-FALL.
NO WON-DER.
IT WAS REALLY COLD OUT.

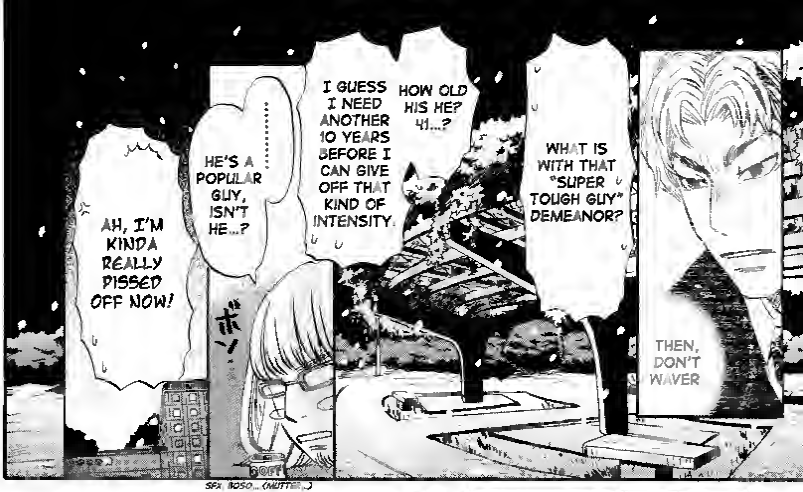
Not only that, but my moves have stopped extending
No matter how much I wound him, he never breaks down
Just how much vitality does he have?
And
Drawing this much blood isn't even enough to faze him.
There aren't any openings I can take advantage of.
He's attacking me with earth-shattering power.
I'm being wrenched open
What does this man see?
He's sacrificing the Rook for the Silver?!
My God.
his attack has begun.
ドン


I can't breathe.
Pitch black water is suddenly flooding in.
In an instant
I got dragged down
to the bottom of the sea.
I'VE GOT NOTHING LEFT!!
I'VE LOST

THAT WAS LIGHT.
常心是
—BUT STILL A LITTLE HEAVY—


THEN, DON'T WAVER.
IT PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER TO GO UP WITH ☖ 8-6C.
AFTER I PEEKED IN WITH ☗ 8-2F, YOU DEFENDED WITH ☖ 6-5B FROM THE LEFT.
BY DOING WHAT YOU DID, YOU USED "HEAVINESS"
.....
YOU GO BY A PRINCIPAL OF LIGHTNESS, RIGHT?

I REALLY GOT SERVED A FULL COURSE
ON TOP OF RUNNING OUT OF OPTIONS AND LOSING OUTRIGHT
I GOT POSSESSED BY A DEMON.
AUGH..
WHAT A DISGRACE...


THEN, DON'T WAVER
WHAT IS WITH THAT "SUPER TOUGH GUY" DEMEANOR?
HOW OLD HIS HE? 41...?
I GUESS I NEED ANOTHER 10 YEARS BEFORE I CAN GIVE OFF THAT KIND OF INTENSITY.
HE'S A POPULAR GUY, ISN'T HE...?
AH, I'M KINDA REALLY PISSED OFF NOW!
SFX: BOSO... (MUTTER...)

WELL THEN..
SFX: GUCHA MEKIYA (CRUSH)

LABEL: TRASH
RIGHT NOW,
WHAT I'M GOING TO DO IS—
COURSE A
(IF IT GOES IN)
I'LL GO HAVE A DRINK AT ONEE-CHAN'S SHOP.
COURSE B
(IF I MISS)
I'LL GO HOME, HIDE UNDER MY FUTON AND CRY MY EYES OUT

SFX: ZUAS (SHNIP)
SFX: KO (TAP)
コツ
SFX: GA (STRIKE)
.....
SFX: BURU BURU BURU... (SHIVER SHIVER SHIVER)
KEO
SFX: GASA GASA (RUSTLE RUSTLE) SFX: GOSO (RUMMAGE)

SFX ZUBO (RAM)

SFX HEHAHEHA (COLLAPSE)

CRATE AMAO

Chapter 26 end

March Comes in Like a Lion

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RAW PURCHASED & SCANNED BY MARIS
TRANSLATED BY KEW10210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY MARIS

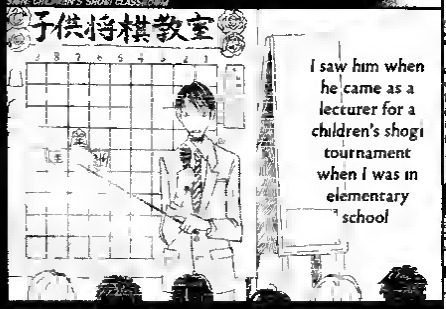
Chapter 27

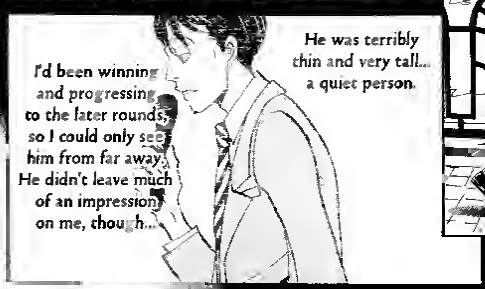
Beyond the Door

SHE'S JUST A PAIN IN THE ASS
that was an attempt to provoke me.
But—
I've got no choice.

First of all is today.

If I don't win today, nothing gets started.

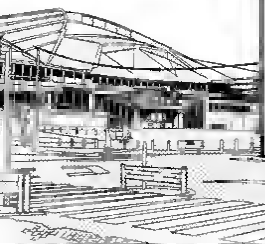



He was terribly thin and very tall... a quiet person.
I'd been winning and progressing to the later rounds, so I could only see him from far away. He didn't leave much of an impression on me, though...

Rather than playing to "win" shogi,

he's a person who plays refusing to "lose" shogi.

But–



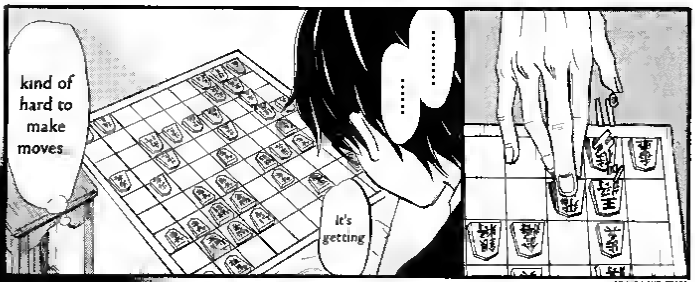
GOTOU GAVE IT TO ME NOT LONG AGO
Be calm...
I musn't get nervous.
He'll latch onto that.

WHYS NOTE: AI YAGURA IS WHEN BOTH PLAYERS FORM A YAGURA CASTLE, CREATING A STRONG DEFENSE AROUND THE KING'S HEAD
In the match, I got black, and made an Ai-Yagura Enclosure.

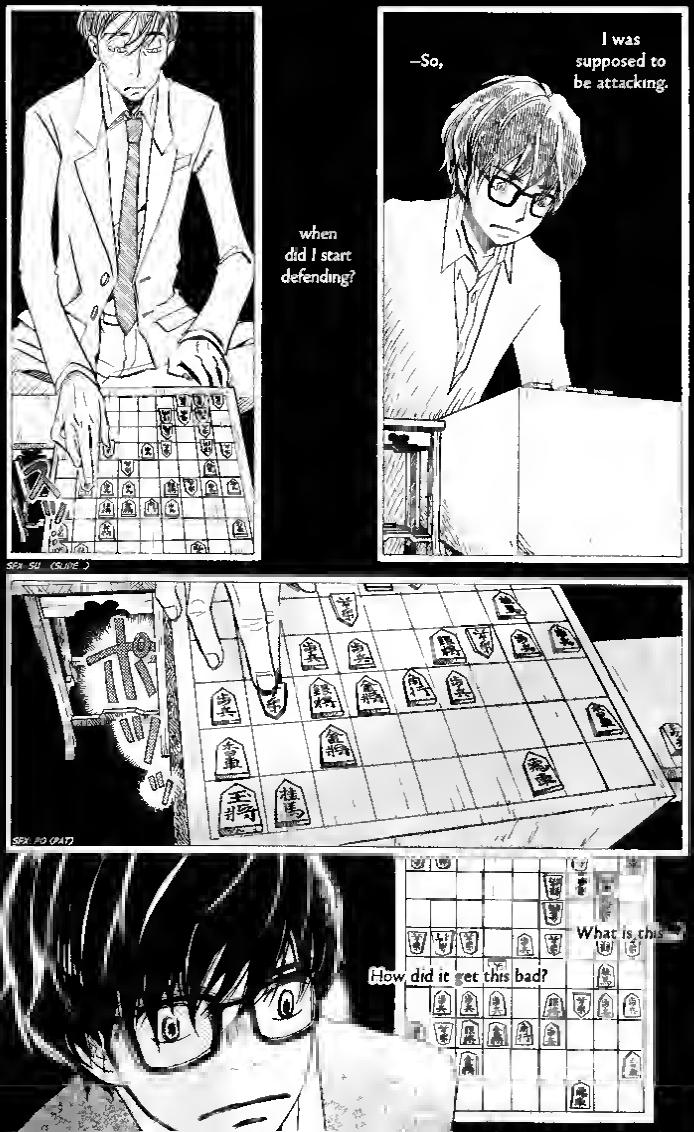
I cannot lose here.
No matter what

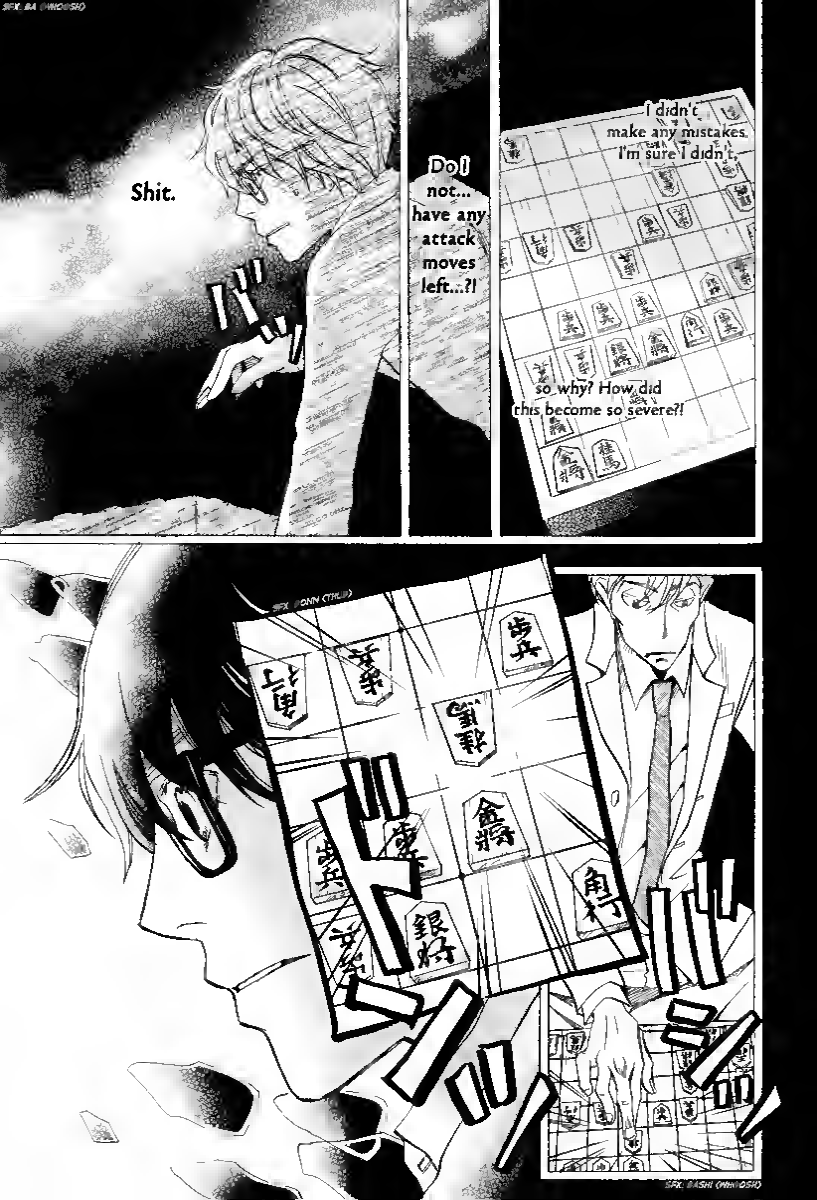
SFX SU (SLIDE)
Here we go.
Now, the war begins.
It's been all standard play so far
.....
Then–
R-5b
Is he planning to defend it all off...?
B-7c
P-5e
P-5e
S-5e
SFX PACHI (TAP)
SFX SU (SLIDE)

So he's planning to bring his Rook around?
Then I will, too
He pulled the trigger
ヒョイ
SFX: HYOI (LIFT)


kind of hard to make moves
it's getting
……
……
SFX: PACHI (TAP)

Hm?
Hold on a second
This is weird
At times like this you firmly enclose the King
SFX: PACHI (TAP)


when did I start defending?
–So, I was supposed to be attacking.
How did it get this bad?
What is this


SFX: BA (WHOOSH)
Shit.
Do I not... have any attack moves left...?!
I didn't make any mistakes. I'm sure I didn't.
so why? How did this become so severe?!
SFX: DAN (THUD)
SFX: BASHI (WHOOSH)

千
SO YOU FINALLY LOOKED THIS WAY, HUH?
GEEZ...
道

SFX: AAAAA..... (SLIDE.....)
AH, ANIJA!
.....
SFX: GUI (GRAB)
DIDN'T YOU PROMISE TO "NOT PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD"?
TO BOTH MASTER AND I?
AND IN EXCHANGE WE SAID "WE WON'T TELL ANYBODY", REMEMBER?
YOU STILL HAVE ONE, DON'T YOU?
AND YOUR FEVER?
YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF YOUR ADVANCE-MENT DEPENDS ON IT!!
YOU DON'T HAVE A MATCH TODAY, RIGHT?
WHY DID YOU COME HERE, BOU?
SORRY, ANIJA

SFX: GOHOSO... (COUGH...)
--SO, WHAT IS IT, BOU?
I WAS JUST SURPRISED YOU WERE HERE
SORRY FOR SUDDENLY PRESSING YOU LIKE THAT...
MM
WELL
ME TOO
I'LL GO HOME AND LIE DOWN SOON
YEAH.
SORRY...
DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO TELL ME?

I WANT YOU TO KNOCK KIRIYAMA'S BRAINS OUT.
YES
THE THING IS,
ANIJA,

I was wondering what he was gonna say. And it was
That Bou_
something troublesome again_
OKAY, THEN
SHALL WE CONTINUE?
Chapter 27 end

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QC BY CHARA & MARIS

Chapter 28

Blinding Darkness

I cannot continue.

That's how bad this is.

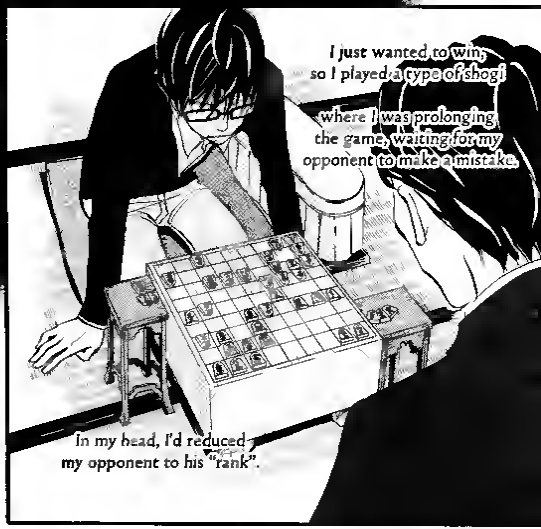
The first thing I felt was shock–

And then, I was overcome by burning

embarrassment.

Who the hell do I think I am?!! "I musn't get nervous"? Just how badly did I misread this person?!

What the hell?! "Those kinds of people"?!!


I just wanted to win, so I played a type of shogi
where I was prolonging the game, waiting for my opponent to make a mistake.
In my head, I'd reduced my opponent to his "rank".

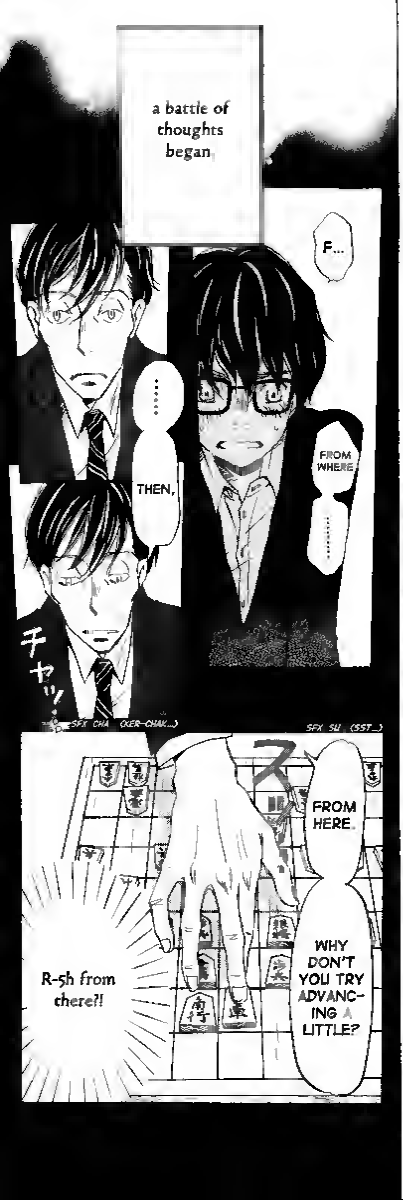
Provoked by another A-class player, I brushed him aside as if he were a mere minor character.
I let my mind be overtaken by a grudge
Without even understanding the "ability" of the opponent in front of me,
Am I
that stupid?

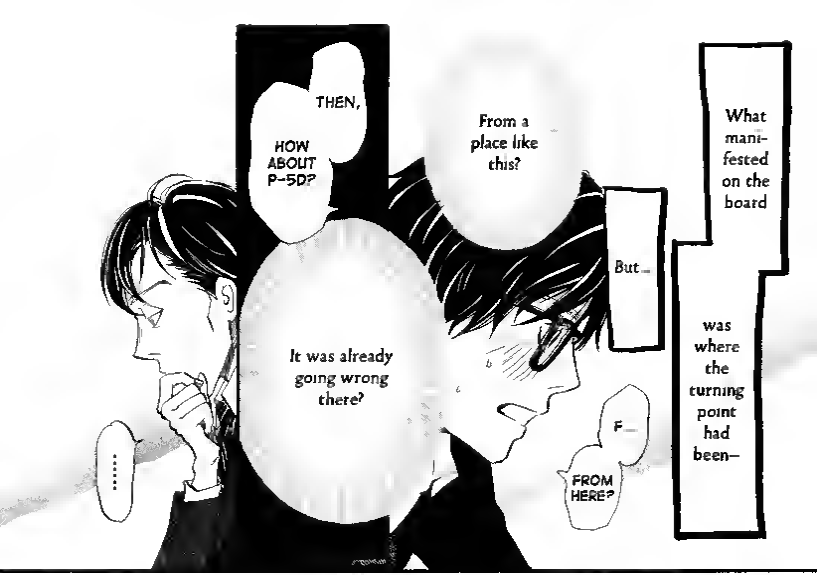
It's painful!
I've got to get away,
get away,
get away!
.....
HUFF
HUFF
I want to run.
I want to disappear.
It's pitch black but blindingly bright.
HN...
I can't breathe.

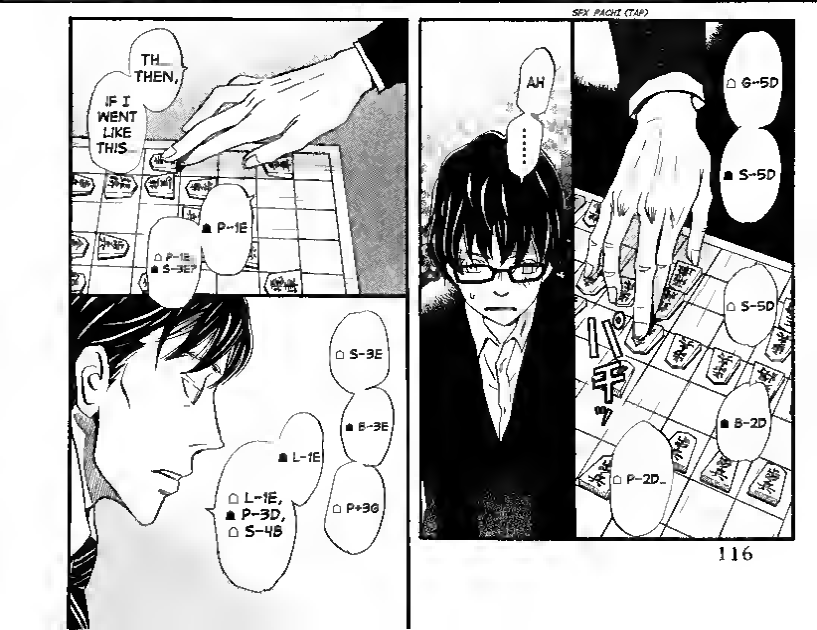
By simply clearing his throat there,

I knew he was telling me, "calm down".

but he had sat through it all, quietly.
This man not only saw through all of it,
and that I'd only just now realised it and gotten abashed–
that fact that I'd been practically belittling him
And I realised,
If I simply ran away in the middle of the game just because of my own embarrassment,
that would be
something truly selfish


a battle of thoughts began.
F...
.....
THEN,
FROM WHERE.....
チャッ!
SFX: CHA (KER-CHAK...)
SFX: SU (SST...)
FROM HERE.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY ADVANCING A LITTLE?
R-5h from there?!
And so,
I continued to play, scraping together every desperate ploy I could...
But
achieving any recovery,
the match ended.
And then—


THEN,
HOW ABOUT P-5D?
From a place like this?
What manifested on the board
But...
was where the turning point had been—
It was already going wrong there?
F—
FROM HERE?
.....


SFX: PACHI (TAP)
TH— THEN,
IF I WENT LIKE THIS...
☗ P-1E
☖ P-1E
☗ S-3E?
☖ S-3E
☗ B-3E
☗ L-1E
☖ L-1E, ☗ P-3D, ☖ S-4B
☖ P+3G
AH
.....
☖ G-5D
☗ S-5D
☖ S-5D
☗ B-2D
☖ P-2D...

Both in the match,
and in my disposition...
AH...
.....
I'm utterly beaten...
SFX: PACHI PACHI... (TAP TAP...)
TH-
THEN,
P-1E
P-1E
HOW ABOUT P-6E?
S+5G
S-5G
S-3G...
TH-
THANK YOU
VERY MUCH.
My voice shook with embarrassment.
it was all...
My reading of the game,
everything,
SFX: BA (FLASH)
The world in front of me flickered black and white.

my own utter failure.
.....
OOHH, HE'S REALLY RUNNING.
HE MUST FEEL LIKE HE GOT STRIPPED NAKED ..
AND GOT BLOWN AWAY.
BECAUSE HE'S LOW ON EXPERIENCE,
HE MISREAD HIS OPPONENT'S ABILITY
AHH, SMITH.
HUH? YOU'RE UP TODAY?
NO, JUST HERE FOR A LITTLE TRAINING.
I WAS JUST EXAMINING YOUR MATCH.
HE SURE IS WEARISOME.. THAT KIRIYAMA-KUN

I KNOW, I KNOW
THE INDISCRETIONS OF YOUTH
SOOO EMBARASSIING
Sigh
AW, GEEZ...
THAT JERK
BEFORE THIS MATCH
HE WENT TO MAKE COPIES OF ONLY YOUR AND GOTOU-SAN'S KIFU
HA HA HA
—SO, IT'S LIKE THAT, IS IT?
GOTOU-SAN HAS "20 GAMES" AND I ONLY HAVE "5 GAMES"
Hahaha
.....
I'M RIGHT?!
MAN, THAT BRAT PISSES ME OFF...
WOOD GRAIN
WELL, I'VE DONE SIMILAR THINGS IN THE PAST, TOO
I was never this direct about it though.
OH, WELL.
EVERYONE DOES THAT, I GUESS
there or less.
THOUGH WE TRY NOT TO REMEMBER

I WANT TO WIN.
AND GO UP AGAINST SOUYA
FOR THE TITLE.
WELL, NEXT
YEAH
YOU'RE UP AGAINST GOTOU-SAN. GIVE IT YOUR ALL!!
Though it's kinda scary
I WANNA WIN
His face
It really is frightening though, that face

Ah, no
It's nothing like that.
WHAT,
A GIRL-FRIEND?
Ah well
Good job today
thanks
TEEHEE
AW, GEEEEZE GO AHEAAAD. IT'S FINE, GO.
AH
I'M A BIT
MAN, I'M HUNGRY
WANT TO STOP OFF SOME-WHERE?
SFX: PEEPEE (FLICK FLICK FLICK)
SFX: SHISHI (SHOO SHOO)

SFX: PIPI... (BEEP BEEP...)
ピピ...
HELLO, BOU?
HOW'S YOUR HEALTH HOLDING UP?
REALLY?
OH?
YOU ALREADY SAW IT ONLINE?
YEAH, I WON
YES.

—BUT THAT GUY SURE IS INTERESTING.
HE'S AN ODD JUMBLE OF STUBBORN AND MEEK.
I MIGHT HAVE RIPPED HIM APART THOUGH.

—MM
I THINK I'M STARTING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT
IS THAT RIGHT...?
HOW ABOUT WE INVITE HIM
TO THE STUDY GROUP?
SFX: CHUU CHUU (SMOOCH SMOOCH)
SFX: GARA GARA (RUSTLE RUSTLE)
I'z sooo zowwy I kebt yuu weit-iiing!!
Ichigo~ chuwaaan!
(Because he found it in a strawberry box)
I'm hoome...
—Later, at Smith's house.
Chapter 28 end
Yuu's such a shtrwiet bowwy!
Wuz you shtrwiet bowwy?
Meow
Meoww
SFX: DOSA... (FLAT...)
PAPER BAG CRUNCH CRUNCH
PLASTIC BAG PET SHOP BED CAT BED WARMER

March Comes in Like a Lion

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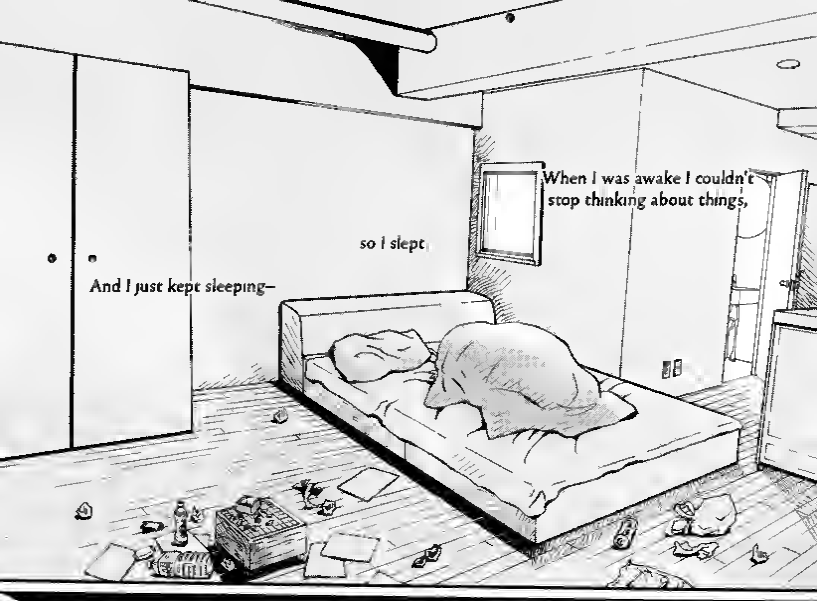
RAW PURCHASED & SCANNED BY MARIS
TRANSLATED BY KEWL0210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY CHARA & MARIS

Chapter 29

Just a Bit of Water


When I was awake I couldn't stop thinking about things,
so I slept.
And I just kept sleeping–

The whole time, I had been thinking only of clashing with Gotou.
Back then, I often couldn't sleep, so I would study kifu like crazy.
and then sleep like a corpse.

SFX: BAN BANN BANN BAAAAN BAAA BAN BAN BAN
(THROB THROB THROB THRRROB-THROB-THROB THROB THROB)
WA...
OW!
WH... WHAT IS THIS?!
HM?
Throb...
Throb...
Throb...
.....
—But eventually, continuously sleeping
became impossible...
I was dehydrated.
It should have gone away if I drank enough liquids,
but—
any liquid I put into my mouth just came right back out.
I was bewildered.
THIS IS BAD.
WHAT DO I DO?
IF I LOSE ANY MORE HYDRATION...

I have dim memories of slowly licking Pocari with a bit of salt a little at a time.
It was over half a day before I could get up.
The next day, almost crawling, I finally got to the nearby convenience store
SANGATSU
I'm an idiot.
I'm even bad at being depressed.
本日発売
本日発売
From B
ガチン

There are many different kinds of jobs in the world, like these.
WAITING TABLES
MARKETING
BUSINESS
PROGRAMMING
SECURITY
DRIVING, COOKING STAFF...
—But pretty much all of them...
IT'S STILL TWO YEARS UNTIL I GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL...
AND UNTIL THEN, IN ORDER TO EARN MONEY TO PAY MY RENT...
—YEAH...
THAT'S RIGHT...
YEAH, IT LOOKS LIKE
ALL I CAN DO IS KEEP PLAYING SHOGI.

I've got a lot of matches. I could be in trouble with absences
Somehow, I've at least got to go to school...
In order to be able to choose my own path
—Is what I thought when I enrolled for school.
JERSEY TEAM, OVER HERE!!
LET'S GO!
It started right off the bat with phys-ed.
YEAH!
And on top of that, it was basketball!!!
SFX: AHA AHA... (PANIC-PANIC...) SFX: FUFUKUA (WHISTLE) SFX: DOGOGOGOGO (RUNNING) SFX: DOGOGOGOGO (RUNNING)
SFX: DOGOGOGOGO (RUNNING) SFX: DOGOGOGOGO (RUNNING) SFX: DOGOGOGOGO (RUNNING)
SFX: POTSUUU... (SILENCE...)
Wh... Where am I supposed to go?
Well, I guess I'll just run and try not to draw attention to myself.
—Wait, huh? The ball's coming towards me?!
Um, what do I do?
The goal is way over there
So do I... pass it to someone? Or something?
Um, you over there... Glasses guy!! What's your name? I need your help here!!
This is how it looked to him...
SFX: KYAA
SFX: BYUU (WHIZZZ)
SFX: AHAHA (PANIC) SFX: HOGOGO (WHOOSH)
SFX: OBU OBU (UM UM)
SFX: OBUOBU
SFX: ARARA

what the hell are you doing?!
You idiot!
AGH.
KYAA
I'LL TAKE THAAAT!!
Dammit,
Hey, four eyes!

Yeah, really.

THIS ISN'T IT RIGHT...
IT DOESN'T KIND OF HAVE ANY TASTE...
IT'S LIKE I'M BITING INTO SAND.

.....
SERIOUSLY
WHAT AM I DOING...?

WHAT DO I DO?
I KIND OF...
DON'T KNOW ANY-MORE..
Am I really "not running away" now?
I WANTED TO HAVE THE MEMORY OF "NOT RUNNING AWAY".
What if all I'm doing is "pretending not to run away"?
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BECOME SOMETHING I WOULD FIRMLY BE ABLE TO DO RIGHT
DIFFERENT FROM HOW I IMAGINED HIGH SCHOOL...
THIS IS KINDA DIFFER-ENT

I thought that if I left home,
paid my own rent and made my own living,
then that would make me an adult
And if I became an adult,
I thought
I wouldn't need to cry
anymore—

SFX: BAAAA (RISE)
SFX: HYOI (POP)
—Wait, uh, what is this?!
A job magazine?!
What's going on here?!
Huuuh?!
—Huh,
You're crying?!
What's wrong?!
GYAAA
Kiiiriyama ☆
CUP: RAMEN

SFX: BOKA (WHACK)
IT'S OKAY, JUST EAT THIS!!
FIRST, JUST EAT
HUH?
BUT...
ドカッ
WHAT'S MORE, YOU'RE ONLY THE 5TH MIDDLE SCHOOL PRO IN HISTORY!!
THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THIS SETUP!
A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SITTING ALONE ON A STAIRCASE READING A JOB MAGAZINE?!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE STAR OF HOPE FOR THE SHOGI WORLD!
AHHH GEEZ!
Geez, I don't know what to ask about first!!

HEY, KIRIYAMA
MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT
GOING BACK TO YOUR MASTER, KOUDA-SAN'S HOUSE AGAIN?
SO YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO EATS COLD THINGS WHEN YOU'RE DEPRESSED?
Won't it cut your lip in half?
ISN'T THAT BAD FOR YOU?! GET SOMETHING WARM!!
WHAT HAPPENED AT THE SHISHI OU CHAMPIONSHIP WAS TOO BAD. I SAW IT ONLINE.
THAT SHIMADA 8TH DAN REALLY IS GOOD.
BUT...
YOU'RE GOING TO GO OVER YOUR CAPACITY.
IT'S TOO MUCH FOR A 17-YEAR-OLD.
AND YOU'RE ALSO MAKING YOUR OWN FOOD, DOING YOUR OWN LAUNDRY, AND THE OTHER THINGS AROUND YOU...
YOU'VE GOT RANK-DECIDING MATCHES AND TOURNAMENTS GOING ON ALL YEAR LONG, YOU'RE GOING TO SCHOOL WHERE YOU'VE GOT TESTS AND STUFF,
...
BUT

We're the same age.
So it interests me.
Oh, yeah!
You sure know a lot about him
IT'S AMAZING HOW RECENTLY HE'S FREQUENTLY BEEN A CONTENDER IN TITLE MATCHES...
I WAS IN THE SAME CLASS AS SOUYA MEIJIN, BUT HE NEVER STOOD OUT TO ME
BUT HE WAS TRULY PERSISTENT AND MADE IT UP TO A-CLASS. HE'S THE PICTURE OF "HARD WORK", THAT MAN.
ONE LIKE SHIMADA 8TH DAN'S STUDY GROUP
BUT...
WHICH REMINDS ME, I'D HEARD THAT NIKAIDOU 4TH DAN IS IN IT
BUT I—
THEN WHY DON'T YOU TRY JOINING ONE?
ALSO, SHIMADA 8TH DAN IS BOTH PERVASIVE AND PASSIONATE. HE OPENS STUDY GROUPS AND STUDIES WITH YOUNGER PLAYERS...
THAT REMINDS ME—
HAVE YOU EVER DONE THAT? JOIN A STUDY GROUP?
NO.
WITH THOSE SORTS OF THINGS, I...
WHY? IT'D BE SUCH A WASTE NOT TO
THEY SAY YOU CAN LEARN A LOT FROM AN OPPONENT THAT DEFEATED YOU, RIGHT?
BUT...

ALL THAT'S BEEN COMING OUT OF YOUR MOUTH IS "BUT, BUT BUT"!!
GAAAAAH GEEZ!
IT'D BE GREAT IF ASSEMBLING A HUNDRED "BUTS" WOULD MAKE A DOOR OPEN, BUT TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST,
THERE ARE NO DOORS LIKE THAT!!
BUT,
NO BUTS—

HEY, ANIJA.
WHY CAN'T YOU CALL KIRIYAMA-SAN DIRECTLY?
YOU SAID YOU WERE GONNA INVITE HIM TO OUR STUDY GROUP THIS AFTERNOON, DIDN'T YOU?

YEAAH
IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN,
BUT IT REALLY COMES DOWN TO THIS
ALL I CAN DO IS WAIT FOR HIM TO ASK HIMSELF
SO IT'S ONE OF THOSE THINGS?
YEAH
ONE OF THOSE THINGS
Chapter 29 end

March Comes in Like a Lion

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RAW PURCHASED & SCANNED BY MARIS
TRANSLATED BY KEW10210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY CHARA, MARIS & PANDA

Chapter 30

Moonlight

Don't touch me.

But don't leave me–

No matter how much water you poured into her, she would never be filled!
Such was the girl who was like cracked glass.
with good looks,
around her,
and all she's...
always riddled with despair like a starved beast.
And—
was put there by none other than...

I'M LEAVING HOME...
I'M IN LOVE WITH HIM
YOU CAN'T THAT MAN
HAS A WIFE, DOESN'T HE?
HASN'T HE?!
SHE'S BEEN HOSPITALISED FOREVER, SO HE'S GOT TO BE LONELY,
Father
and me

I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN.
HOW HE LABELLED HIS DAUGHTER A FAILURE IN LIFE WHEN SHE WAS JUST IN HER 2ND YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.
I CAN'T ALLOW WHAT HE DID EITHER
SO WHAT?
DAD WON'T ALLOW IT

QUIT LYING!!
IT'S TRUE.
SHOGI ISN'T EVERY-THING.
"THERE'S LIFE OUT-SIDE OF SHOGI"
SAYING THINGS HE DOESN'T MEAN, LIKE
BOTH YOU AND DAD
DON'T HAVE ANYTHING IN YOUR HEADS BESIDES SHOGI.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF IT
OF THE TWO OF YOU FEELING SORRY FOR ME,
TREATING ME LIKE I NEED TO BE HANDLED DELICATELY...
IT'S INFUR-IATING
JUST HOW LONG DO I
NEED TO FEEL MISERABLE LIKE THIS?!

NO MATTER WHERE I GO, THERE WON'T BE ANYONE WHO WILL MISS ME
I'M LEAVING
FATHER DOESN'T THINK
THAT YOU ARE UN-IMPORTANT, RIGHT, ANE-SAN?
BUT YOU'RE DIFFER-ENT, NEE-SAN
It's the first day of the third match of the finals for the tournament to deter-mine who will be the challenger for the title of Shishi Ou...
10 AM
A match is starting

I wonder what kind of fight it's turning out to be
facing off against each other
Right now in a special room set up just for the match, those two are quietly
When I played Shimada-san, I was overcome by a strange sensation
As if I had set foot into a sea of trees,
It was like being constricted by something that made absolutely no noise
I felt as though I was getting tangled in an overwhelming something

I wonder what kind of game he's playing against Gotou
SEN-SEI,
I HAVE THREE MONTHS' WORTH OF ABSENCE NOTES...
OOH,
KIRI-YAMA
CHECK THIS OUT.
IT'S INCRED-IBLE.
TWO HOURS IN, AND THE MATCH LOOKS LIKE THIS.
THIS...
IS...
Just by looking at how many moves had been played by that point
※☖P-〃
※☗S-〃
※☖P-3d
※☗S-4f
※☖P-9d
※☗P-9f
※☖P-8f
※☗S-5e
it felt like I could hear
the dull sound of heavy bones colliding with each other.

I WAS WONDERING HOW THOSE TWO, WHO BOTH HAVE SOLEMNESS AS THEIR SELLING POINT,
WOULD PLAY AGAINST EACH OTHER—
BUT IT WAS LIKE THEY WERE POUNDING EACH OTHER.
WELL, THEY STILL ARE.
.....
WANNA GO?
HUH?
WHERE?
TO THE SHOGI HALL.
BUT—
IT'S NOT A TITLE MATCH, SO THIS BLOG UPDATES AT ODD INTERVALS
IT'D BE A BETTER LEARNING EXPERIENCE TO GO THERE AND WATCH IT IN PERSON
BUT I'VE GOT SO MANY ABSENCES
OWW...
SMACK
IT'LL BE FINE, JUST GO!!

SFX: DOKI DOKI... SKIP (THUMP THUMP THUMP...)
He...
He's got enough, right?
He's just barely... in the clear... right?
I couldn't have done some thing to disgrace myself as a teacher, right?!
Eep!
Whoa.
Umm.
YO, KIRIY-AMA
KIRIY-AMA
AH, HE MOVED
G-4C?!
HUH?!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?!
I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMETHING LIKE THIS FROM SHIMADA-SAN
IS HE JUST GONNA THROW HIS BISHOP AWAY HERE?!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANIJA DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS EITHER...

From the room past the dark hallways, the one reserved for special matches,
I felt as though the presence of those two people
had seeped all the way into our room...
What?
Something is... wrong, isn't it?
How did their moves lead them into this?
Is it because of how long they've been playing?
The depth of their accumulated experience?
The weight of each of their exchanges?
Or all of those things?

a battle between two humans
that trust themselves.
The first game of the Shishi Ou Championship Finals Tournament's third round
The match ended at 9 PM.
After 153 moves, Shimada 8th dan resigned.
began with a win for Gotou 9th dan.
THIS PLACE NEVER CHANGES, DOES IT?
IT'S SUCH A DEPRESSING BUILDING...
REI.

I'VE ALWAYS HATED IT...
SAME WITH THIS DARK STREET
AND THAT GLOOMY SHRINE
ANE-SAN...
将棋会館
YO
WELL, WELL,
THE STALKERS ARE ALL TOGETHER
WHY ARE YOU HERE,
KYOKO?
AND YOU, YOU WERE RARING TO GO UP AGAINST ME, WEREN'T YOU?
WHAT HAPPENED? I GUESS SHIMADA WAS JUST THAT GOOD, HUH?

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE A-CLASS.
I didn't want to leave.
HEY,
ARE YOU REALLY LEAVING?
HEY...
WAIT
But we couldn't be together anymore.
ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY
FROM ME?

I couldn't protect
I thought that unless I could stand on my own two feet,
I wanted to grow up fast.
the people that were important to me.

AAAAAAH,
DAMN IT, I LOST
Because I got a mere lecture on that Bishop Exchange
WHEN-EVER I TRIED TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE,
HE WOULD FIRE BACK IMMEDIATELY,
WITH SUCH GLEE!!
HE REALLY IS STRONG,
THAT OLD MAN
And he's got such a scary face!!
AND ON TOP OF BEING STRONG, HE'S SO IMMATURE!!
.....
BUT—

THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL I'LL LOSE NEXT TIME.
Yeah,
of course,
Anija!
Chapter 30 end

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TRANSLATED BY KEW10210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY KIWIISH

Chapter 31
Mass of Ego

SFX: UN UN (NOD NOD)

I see...

Mm.

三日堂

KAAH

うんうん

THERE'S NO WAY

I COULD LIVE WITH THAT

SFX: KURUURI KURUURI (SPIN SPIN)

I'D SHAVE ONE EYEBROW AND GO LIVE ALONE IN THE MOUNTAINS.

IF IT WERE ME, I'D SLICE MY BELLY OPEN

(IMAGINARY) LANTERN

Ahhh...

Kaah

SFX: SEWA SEWA (FIDGET FIDGET)

SFX: MOZI MOZI (SQUIRM SQUIRM)

Seems to be remembering quite a few things from his younger days

WELL, THAT... AS A MAN, THAT'S...

TO BLUSTER OUT SHARP LANGUAGE IN FRONT OF A GIRL IS ONE THING, BUT IN FRONT OF THE GIRL YOU WANT, YOU'LL GET SHOT DOWN, RIGHT?

Kaaah

Ahhhh

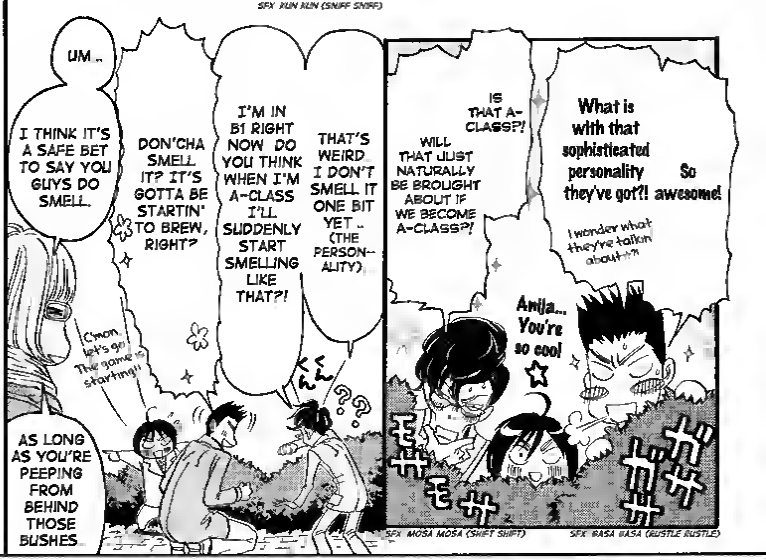
#NYS NOTE: SEEING A REVOLVING LANTERN IS AN OMEN FOR SEEING YOUR LIFE FLASH BEFORE YOUR EYES
THE SHAVING OF AN EYEBROW WAS A PRACTICE TO ENSURE ONE WOULD NOT BE TEMPTED TO COME OUT OF ISOLATION AND LET OTHERS SEE ONESELF THAT WAY
"I'D SLICE MY BELLY OPEN" IS A REFERENCE TO SEPPUKU, TRADITIONAL RITUALISED SUICIDE

IS IT..
REALLY THAT BAD?
THERE ISN'T EVEN ANYTHING TO BE WORRIED ABOUT.
WHEN REI-CHAN SAYS, "I'LL DO MY BEST", I REALLY BELIEVE HE "DID HIS BEST"...
SO EVEN IF HE FAILS, NOBODY'LL LAUGH AT HIM, BUT..
WHAT'S THE USE IN BEING EMBARRASSED?
EXACTLY.
IT'S A LOT MORE HONEST THAN DOIN' NOTHIN' YER WHOLE LIFE AND JUST LAUGHIN' AT OTHERS
"I FAILED" JUST MEANS "I TOOK ON A CHALLENGE"
..BUT THE BOY'S STILL YOUNG AND SERIOUS AS HELL
IT WAS WITH AN OPPONENT HE REALLY WANTED TO WIN AGAINST, RIGHT?
I'VE NEVER SEEN REI-KUN SHOW SUCH BELLIGERENCE
WELL,
HE MAY HAVE GOTTEN TOO WRAPPED UP IN IT

HE'S PROBABLY EATING NOTHING BUT SWEET BUNS AND RAMEN AGAIN
WHAT DO WE DO AT TIMES LIKE THIS?
THERE'S NOTHIN' YA CAN DO BUT LEAVE 'IM ALONE
EMBARRASSMENT YA GOT AT WORK CAN ONLY BE REDEEMED AT WORK.
UNTIL THE BOY THINKS, "I'VE REDEEMED MYSELF!!"
THE ONLY THING HE CAN DO IS FIGHT FOR HIMSELF.
WELL, EVENTUALLY HE'S GONNA BE AN ADULT AND HE'LL REALISE IT WHETHER HE LIKES IT OR NOT.
THAT NO MATTER WHO IT IS, AMONG THOSE WHO FIGHT ON THE FRONT LINES,
THERE AIN'T NOBODY WHO HASN'T FELT SOME AMOUNT OF EMBARRASSMENT.

ビー……
SHIMADA, YOU KNOW, RECENTLY...
YOU'RE LOOKING LIKE YOU'RE OLDER THAN ME, DON'T YOU THINK?
DO YOU SECRETLY GO TO THE GYM A LOT?
Must be tough, being such a narcissist.
THAT MUST BE HARD TO MAINTAIN, HUH?
Where are you looking?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, WITH THOSE MUSCLES?
ドンガラ
ピッシャーン!!
SHIMADA KEISUKE (BOOM CRASH)

NOW... THEN
……
SHALL WE GET GOING?


SFX: KUN KUN (SNIFF SNIFF)
UM..
I THINK IT'S A SAFE BET TO SAY YOU GUYS DO SMELL.
DON'CHA SMELL IT? IT'S GOTTA BE STARTIN' TO BREW, RIGHT?
I'M IN B1 RIGHT NOW. DO YOU THINK WHEN I'M A-CLASS I'LL SUDDENLY START SMELLING LIKE THAT?!
THAT'S WEIRD. I DON'T SMELL IT ONE BIT YET.. (THE PERSONALITY)
C'mon, let's go! The game is starting!!
AS LONG AS YOU'RE PEEPING FROM BEHIND THOSE BUSHES
SFX: MOSA MOSA (SHIFT SHIFT)
IS THAT A-CLASS?!
WILL THAT JUST NATURALLY BE BROUGHT ABOUT IF WE BECOME A-CLASS?!
What is with that sophisticated personality
So awesome!
I wonder what they're talkin about~?
Anija... You're so cool
SFX: WASA WASA (RUSTLE RUSTLE)

10 o'clock..
The game is starting

Three matches to determine the challenger for the Shishi Ou Championship
The first game went to Gotou 9th dan.
This is Shimada-san's last chance–

Last time was surprisingly a real slugfest
I wonder what sort of game it'll be this time...
I want to watch...
But!!
I wanna watch it so bad
Here!! I've finished totalling your attendance days, would you like to see?
—Yessss, I can hereby confirm that you can't catch any more colds or get appendicitis ☆
SFX: FUNNY (DRAMA)
So I went and asked all your teachers in your place for you!!
"Ask your friends!!" is what I'd normally say, but the exams might be over while you're still looking for friends
Um, about the scope of the tests.
HERE
You're exactly right. You're really a life saver.
But what is this feeling!
You might even end up being called "old man" by your classmates, ya know?
It's harrd repeating a year!
Get it together, okay!
AH.
AND JUST IN CASE ANYTHING HAPPENS, DO AIM FOR ABOVE-AVERAGE SCORES ON YOUR FINALS, OKAY? ☆
WELL, YOU'VE ALREADY GOT TWO DAYS SET TO TAKE OFF FOR RANKING MATCHES. SO I CAN'T HELP THAT.
AND IF BY CHANCE YOU PROGRESS EVEN ONE ROUND IN EITHER TOURNAMENT, YOU'LL BE AT THE PRECIPICE

SFX: DONNN (BAMMM)
—Meanwhile, in the special game room...
SFX: PAPAPA BACHIIN BIRRRSHI (SMMACK SLAAP SMMACK)
IT'S A SLUGFEST... AND WHAT'S MORE,
THEY'RE EVEN MORE TIGHTLY LOCKED TOGETHER...
—ACTUALLY, ARE THEY RELYING ON ATTACK POWER EVEN MORE THAN LAST TIME?
For some reason, everyone was sitting in seiza...
BHYS NOTE: SEIZA IS THE TRADITIONAL FORMAL WAY OF SITTING IN JAPAN, PARTICULARLY ON TATAMI MATS

SHOGI NOTE: RYUOUSHA NYUU GYOKU IS WHEN BOTH PLAYERS ARE IN THE OPPONENT'S TERRITORY

GEEZ. JUST QUIT IT ALREADY!! THIS IS SO IMMATURE!

WHAT'S MORE... AHHH!

OF ALL THINGS, *RYOUSHA NYUU GYOKU*?!

Eight hours later...

WHAT THE HELL KIND OF SITUATION IS IT WHERE YOU THINK, "WELL, IF I GET MY KING ACROSS THEN I'LL WIN, WON'T I?" WHAT'S WITH THAT?!

SFX: BISHAAAN (CLAAASH)

SFX: BAGHI (SMASH)

SFX: ZWAAAAN (A "SLASH")

SFX: FURA FURA (DIZZY TOTTER)

ズバーン

ゴロゴロゴーン

IS THAT THE SOUND OF THUNDER?!

Three more hours later....

フラー

フラー。。

THE LIGHT'S NOT COMING FROM THE PIECES, RIGHT?!

SFX: ZEE ZEE (WHEEZE WHEEZE)
SFX: NYARI (GRIN)
SFX: NYAA (GRIN)
I WON.
BOU.
SFX: HAA HAA (HUFF HUFF)
"The young ones realizing just the materiality of what's been lost
SEX
In... In just one game?!
Yeahhh!
You were great, Anija!
WHAT'S WRONG, BOU?
AH, NOTHING. I JUST HAVEN'T GOTTEN A REPLY FROM KIRIYAMA...
IS THAT RIGHT...?
MAYBE I KNOCKED HIS BRAINS OUT A LITTLE TOO HARD...
Back then...
HMM...

HEY, BOU.
WHY DO YOU WANT TO GET KIRIYAMA TO CHEER UP SO BADLY?
.....
.....
将棋会館
...KIRI-YAMA...
WHO GOT ME OUT FROM BEING STUCK IN THE MUD
WHEN HE KNOCKED MY BRAINS ONCE
I spent a lot of time in the hospital ever since I was little.
All I had to support my heart was to get stronger on the board.
.....
IT WAS HE...

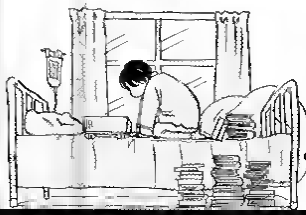
I just continued to immerse myself in shogi...

–But the stronger I got

the more weaker opponents would lose their nerve and resign, and I'd think they were cowards

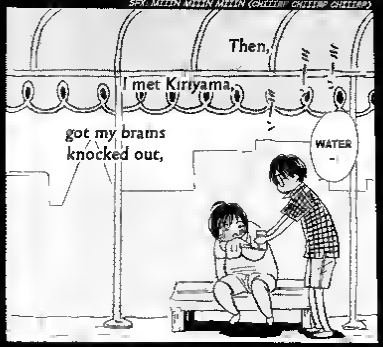
I got so frustrated, and I got pissed off and really annoyed..

It was at that time, when I was reduced to a mass of ego..



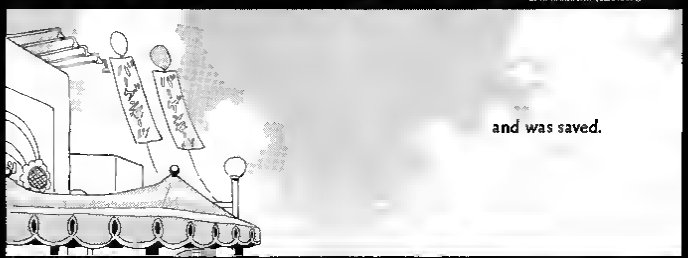
–While I saw the other kids in my grade were all running around outside having fun through the corner of my eyes,

SFX: MEEN MEEN MEEN (CHEEEP CHEEEP CHEEEP)



SFX: MEEN MEEN... (CHEEEP CHEEEP...)

SFX: KARAN... (CLANG...)



and was saved.

SFX: KERS KARAN SHLE

Ah, there is someone stronger than me.
A human with more ambition than me.
"I'M NOT ALONE",
I THOUGHT—
MM
SOME-
HOW,
I GET
IT.
将棋会館
I SEE

SFX: KIIIII (CREEEAK)
WAIT, I SAID!
HEY,
WAIT A SECOND!
SFX: BAN BAN (BAM BAM)
SFX: BATAMM (BANG)
HEYYY!
HM?
SFX: BURORORODDHH (VROOOOOMM)
YEAH, I WONDER
ARE THEY FIGHTING?
Who was th Gotou
Who is that beautiful girl?
Doesn't he have a wife...?
Gosh she's so young...
I DON'T EVEN CARE ANYMORE, OKAY!
GOTOU, YOU IDIOOOT!
WHAT'S WITH YOU!

SFX: KURA (DIZZY)
What is this... feeling like I lost...?
SFX: BUNN (SHAKE)
That was nothin'!
Noooo.
Dammit!!
I'm defffinitely gonna win the next one, too!
C'mon, Bou!
Let's go back and work on our next plan against him!
YAAY! I KNEW YOU WERE UP FOR THIS!☆
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE MY ANIJA!!
Meanwhile... What Kiriyama was doing at that time.
Sensei discovered a regrettable miscalculation.
Sorry... You were already two days short!
Make up for his mistake with a ton of reports.
Um... Sensei... I'm kinda, really, sorry!!

Chapter 31 end

March Comes in Like a Lion

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY UMINO CHIKA
PUBLISHED BY HAKUSENSHA (2009/08)
VOLUME 3 ISBN 978-4592145134

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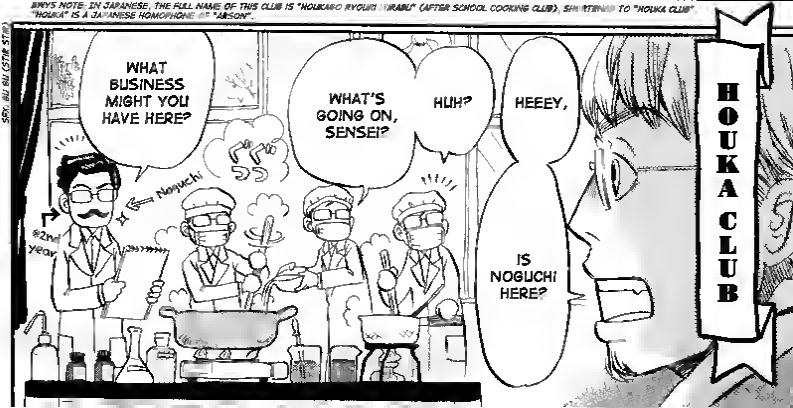
TRANSLATED BY KEW10210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA
QC BY KIWIISH & MARIS

Chapter 32

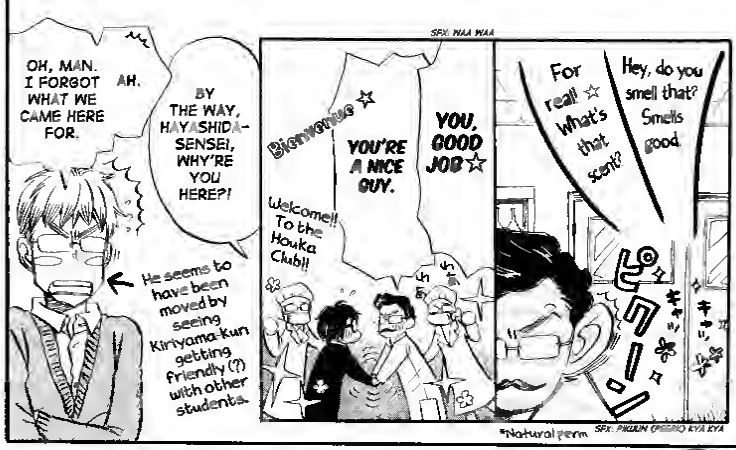
Run Through the Night

UM, THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY... WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT...
SEN-SEI
AAGH, Geeeez!
AHH, GEEZ I CAN'T GET A HOLD OF SASAKI-SENSEI
SHIT. AND WE AND JUST ONE MORE TO BE DONE WITH THESE REPORTS
HUUUH?!
YOU NEVER DID ANY LAB EXPERIMENTS?
THEY ALL LANDED ON YOUR ABSENT DAYS?!
Seriously?!
Sasaki / Subject (Chemistry)
Please put together a report on your impressions of the experiment we performed in class.
(500 words)
The Houka Club!!
HUH?! HOW?
Let's go!! We'll do the experiment now!!
No! We're better off getting this done sooner!
We'll just ask those guys!!
ARSON CLUB?!



AWYS NOTE: IN JAPANESE, THE FULL NAME OF THIS CLUB IS "HOUKAGO RYOURI SHIABU" (AFTER SCHOOL COOKING CLUB), SHORTENED TO "HOUKA CLUB". "HOUKA" IS A JAPANESE HOMOPHONE OF "ARSON".

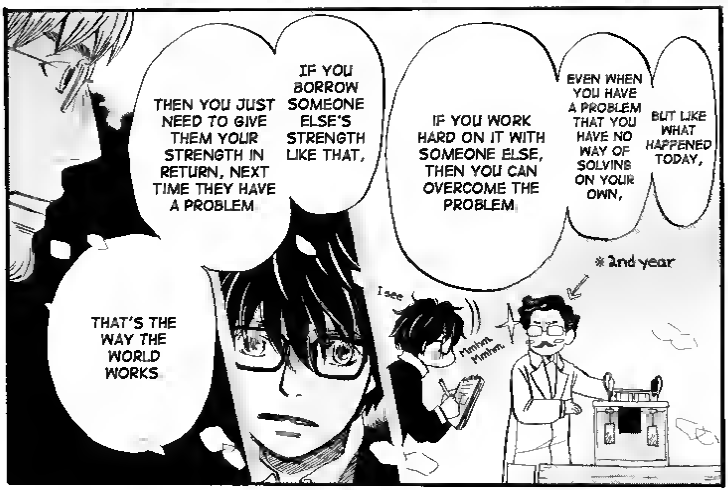
YES, YOU CAN! HERE, LIKE THIS!!
PREPARE OLIVE OIL, SODIUM HYDROXIDE, AND DISTILLED WATER. WHILE ENSURING AMPLE VENTILATION, MIX THE SODIUM HYDROXIDE AND DISTILLED WATER UNTIL WELL BLENDED. ADD THE OLIVE OIL WHILE HEATING THE SODIUM HYDROXIDE SOLUTION TO MAKE THE "SOAP BASE". POUR INTO MOLD AND LET IT SIT FOR ONE DAY AFTER IT'S HAPDENED, REMOVE FROM MOLD AND CUT IT UP USING A KITCHEN KNIFE
SFX. GUTSURI GUTSURA (CLUB BLUB)
HUH? YOU CAN MAKE SOAP?
I THOUGHT I'D TOP OFF THE CLUB BUDGET WITH THIS
IT'S SOAP I BOUGHT A KIT AT A BAZAAR
HM? WHAT'RE YOU MAKING, NOGUCHI?
SFX. GUI (CLENCH)
WITH THE GERM-KILLING COMPONENTS OF THE MUGWORT AND THE CHOCOLATE AND THE BANANA, THIS HAS THREE OF THE THINGS REQUIRED FOR A FAVOURABLE IMPRESSION ON THE LADIES, YOU KNOW!?
HOW RUDE!
Uh... Noguchi, this won't sell, right?
Man, it really reeks.
It stinks!!
AND THIS IS OUR CLUB'S NEW SPRING PROJECT!!
IT'S MUGWORT CHOCO-BANANA☆!!
SFX. GASHAAN (SMAAASH)
BOTTLES: GRAPEFRUIT; MUGWORT
SFX. BONAANU (SCOFF AND WAARN)
This smell... It's so refreshing, isn't it?!
HM? WAIT A SEC?
AH! HEY, YOU! WHAT'D YOU JUST SPILL?!
KYAAHHH!
Aaah, excuse meee-
HOW COULD YOU SPILL OUR PRECIOUS MUGWORT OIL INTO THE GRAPEFRUIT!!
SFX. MOHAAN (PHEEW) POKU POKU POKU (RUSH RUSH RUSH) TOPOPOPOPOPO (RUDDLRLLRLLRL


SFX: HAA HAA
OH, MAN. I FORGOT WHAT WE CAME HERE FOR.
AH.
BY THE WAY, HAYASHIDA-SENSEI, WHY'RE YOU HERE?!
He seems to have been moved by seeing Kiriyama-kun getting friendly (?) with other students.
Bigmwahaha
YOU'RE A NICE GUY.
YOU, GOOD JOB☆
Welcome!! To the Houka Club!!
Uh
Hey, do you smell that? Smells good.
For real! ☆ What's that scent?
*Natural perm
SFX: PAKUN (OPENS) KYA KYA

THANKS, NOGU-CHI!!
ALL RIGHT, IF IT'S FOR SCIENCE, THEN WE, THE HOUKA CLUB, WILL GLADLY LEND A HAND!!
YOU'RE A LABOURING YOUNG MAN, HUH?
WHILE WORKING? THAT SOUNDS TOUGH!
* 2nd year
SFX: WAAY (WARAU)
UH, DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS KID HAS TO GO TO SCHOOL WHILE WORKING. SO HE'S SHORT ON DAYS OF ATTENDANCE.
WE JUST NEED YOU TO SHOW US A LITTLE EXPERIMENT SO WE CAN DO A REPORT.
RIGHT NOW IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S ABOUT TO HAVE TO REPEAT A GRADE. SO LEND US A HAND, WILL YA?
What a great explana-tion...
P-
Please, could you help me out?
SFX: PAKUN (BOW)
UNLESS YOU REFORM THAT MANNER OF SPEAKING, YOU'LL NEVER HAVE A SUCCESSFUL CAREER!
HAHAHA. AS HAVE YOU, SENSEI.
I KNEW YOU WERE A GOOD GUY!☆
Though you've aged quite a bit
SENSEI!!

BNYS NOTE: THIS IS A FAMOUS/DRAMATIC LINE FROM THE 1974 ANIME "HEIDI, GIRL OF THE ALPS"

BUT,
I REALLY AM GLAD
HUH?
IT HAD A "CLARA STOOD UP!!" SORTA FEELING TO IT
SEEING YOU TALK AND LAUGH WITH OTHER STUDENTS BACK THERE
RIGHT? ☆
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY JOINING THAT CLUB?
THEY SURE WERE NICE PEOPLE. THOSE GUYS FROM THE HOUKA CLUB
Apparently he was given a souvenir (soap & hand cream) & handmade by the Houka Club


THEN YOU JUST NEED TO GIVE THEM YOUR STRENGTH IN RETURN. NEXT TIME THEY HAVE A PROBLEM
IF YOU BORROW SOMEONE ELSE'S STRENGTH LIKE THAT,
IF YOU WORK HARD ON IT WITH SOMEONE ELSE, THEN YOU CAN OVERCOME THE PROBLEM
EVEN WHEN YOU HAVE A PROBLEM THAT YOU HAVE NO WAY OF SOLVING ON YOUR OWN,
BUT LIKE WHAT HAPPENED TODAY,
THAT'S THE WAY THE WORLD WORKS
※2nd year
I see
Hmm.. Hmm..

YOU KNOW,
THIS IS IMPORTANT, OKAY?
YOU GOT THAT?
WHEN YOU'VE GOT NO WAY TO DO IT ON YOUR OWN,
RELY ON SOMEONE ELSE
—IF YOU DON'T, THE TRUTH IS
NO ONE
WILL RELY ON YOU
EITHER

At that moment, Akari-san and the others suddenly appeared in my head.

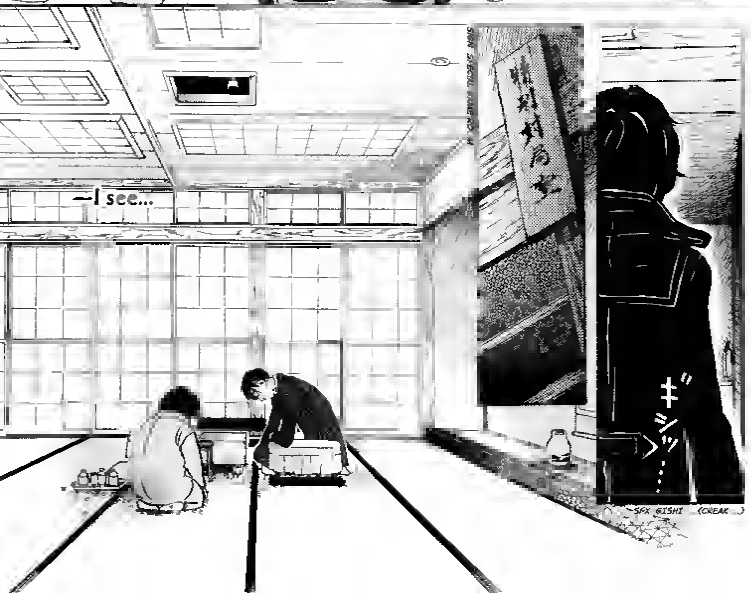
Even though I'd been focusing on nothing but reserving myself, the truth is

I had been relying on them.

Just once—

Yes... Just once...

SFX: HAA (GASP)
When I got to the hall
It was a little bit past 6 o'clock
SFX: HAA HAA HAA (HUFF PUFF PUFF)
将棋会館
--Huh?!
No way...
It's over?!
Which one?
Which one of them won?

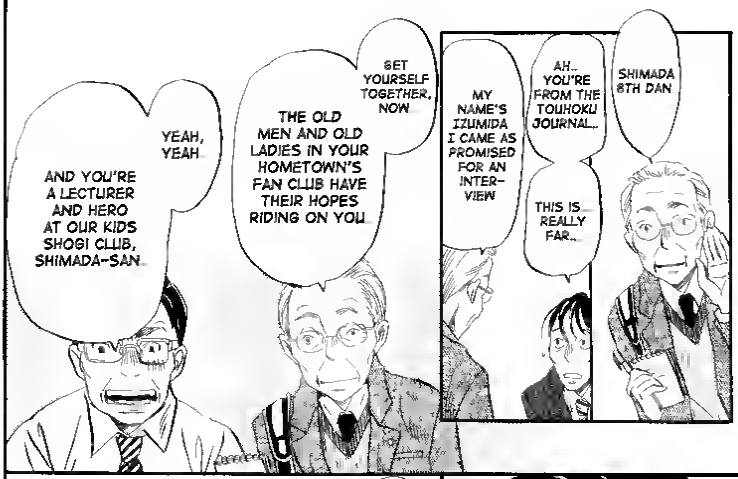

~I see...
キシッ……
SFX KISHI (CREAK)

Shimada 8th dan won...
–How many times have I seen this...
this scene right after a game.
The one who realised defeat
arranges their thoughts to say their final words, then leaves.
But the one who won,
who hadn't misread anything up to the very last instant,
continues to strain themselves.
–So in that regard,
right after a game,
the winning side often gets severely exhausted.
And because of that,
they may not even be able to articulate properly...

I'M HAPPY
SNOT'S JUST
DROPPING FROM MY EYES, IS ALL
I'M NOT CRYING
WHAT...?
DON'T CRY, BOU
ANIJA
CON-GRATULA-TIONS,

SFX: PASHA PASHA (SNAP SNAP)
FOR PLAYING SOUYA MEIJIN IN THE SHISHI OU CHAMPIONSHIP!!
WELL THEN, TELL US ABOUT YOUR ASPIRATIONS AND ENTHUSIASM
UM, SHIMADA-SAN
WOULD YOU CARE TO MAKE A FEW COMMENTS?
MAN, THAT'S GROSS
Sorry
Here, wipe it

SFX: FURA FURA (UNEASY) BORO BORO (WORN OUT)
I mean, Souya is even more of a monster than Gotou was, right?
Ahahah
WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, I CAN'T EVEN BELIEVE THERE IS A "NEXT", SORTA...
WHEN I TRY TO CONSIDER WHAT COMES NEXT... OR RATHER...
NO, I MEAN, JUST GETTING THE CHALLENGER TICKET HAS GOTTEN ME IN THIS STATE, HASN'T IT?
Huhh?!
Direct
I can't be enthusiastic...
Anija?!
SHIMADA 8TH DAN, YOU'RE A BIT TOO HONEST...
BY THE REPORTER
将棋


SHIMADA 8TH DAN
AH... YOU'RE FROM THE TOUHOKU JOURNAL...
MY NAME'S IZUMIDA I CAME AS PROMISED FOR AN INTER-VIEW
THIS IS... REALLY FAR...
GET YOURSELF TOGETHER, NOW
THE OLD MEN AND OLD LADIES IN YOUR HOMETOWN'S FAN CLUB HAVE THEIR HOPES RIDING ON YOU
YEAH, YEAH
AND YOU'RE A LECTURER AND HERO AT OUR KIDS SHOGI CLUB, SHIMADA-SAN

As if the word "hope" was pushing at his back,

THIS PRELIMINARY GAME WAS ANOTHER FIERCE BATTLE
I'M DELIGHTED THAT I'VE BECOME THE CHAL-LENGER
THE SHISHI OU CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH MAKES FOR MY 7TH MATCH. BUT—

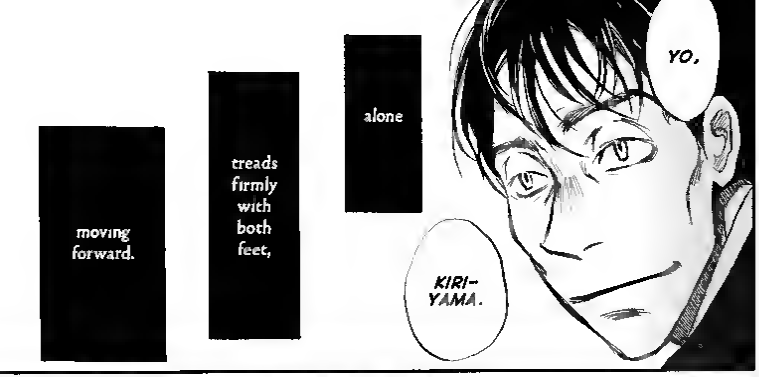
Shimada-san slowly

started talking...

like he was squeezing out

each word...

could never reach unscathed.
It's a world that I
–And at the edge of it, he
then I've averted my eyes from that world.
KIRI-YAMA!
if I'm
saying things like "I've got no reason to win"
and "Then why is it so frustrating to lose?"



—Suddenly, at that moment,

I may not have anything to give back at all, but
YEAH, THANKS.
IS GREEN TEA OKAY?
OKAY.
Hmmm
COULD YOU GO GET ME SOMETHING COLD TO DRINK?
OH, YEAH. SORRY, BOU.

my chest squeezed together,

and a heat welled up in the back of my throat.

I have something...
I really want to ask you.
SHIMADA-SAN...
UM...
.....
I...
NOW
...THEN

PLEASE LET ME JOIN IT...
THE STUDY GROUP,
WANT TO JOIN IT?

Sorry I took so long, Aniyah!
Haw..?
AH
EH
Hahaha
Ha...
PFT.
SFX: KYOTO KYOTO (BLANCE BLANCE)
HUH?
WHAT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS ALL EXCITED ABOUT?!
C'mon, let me in on it too!
Chapter 32 end

March Comes in Like a Lion

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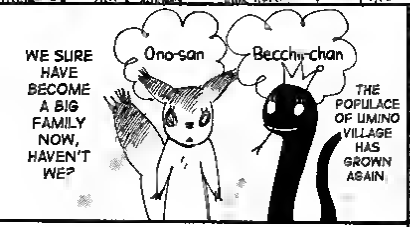
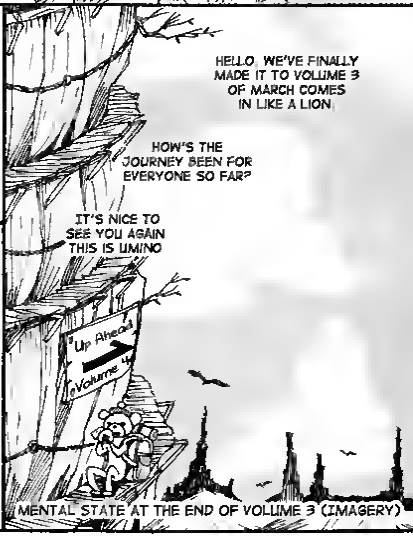
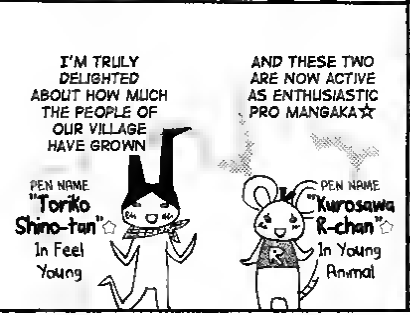
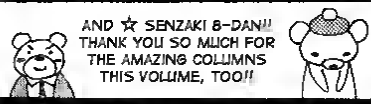
TRANSLATED BY KEWL0210
CLEANED & TYPESET BY CHARA AND HIPPOPOTOMOOSE
QC BY KIWIISH & PANDA

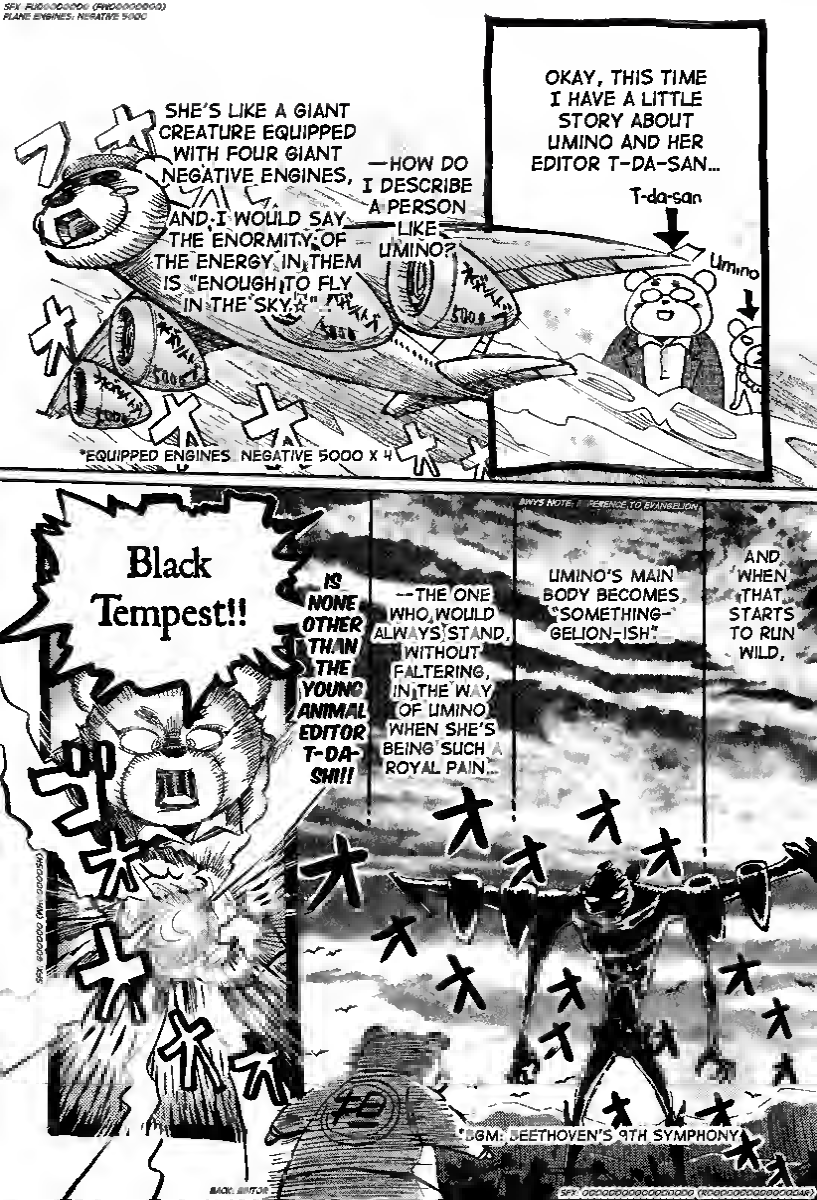
Umino and her Happy Comrades




HELLO, WE'VE FINALLY MADE IT TO VOLUME 3 OF MARCH COMES IN LIKE A LION
HOW'S THE JOURNEY BEEN FOR EVERYONE SO FAR?
IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN THIS IS UMINO
Up Ahead
Volume
MENTAL STATE AT THE END OF VOLUME 3 (IMAGERY)


I'M TRULY DELIGHTED ABOUT HOW MUCH THE PEOPLE OF OUR VILLAGE HAVE GROWN
AND THESE TWO ARE NOW ACTIVE AS ENTHUSIASTIC PRO MANGAKA☆
PEN NAME "Toriko Shino-tan"☆ In Feel Young
PEN NAME "Kurosawa R-chan"☆ In Young Animal


AND ☆ SENZAKI B-DAN!! THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE AMAZING COLUMNS THIS VOLUME, TOO!!
I'LL CONTINUE TO DO MY BEST GOING FORWARD, SO I'D BE DELIGHTED IF YOU WOULD WATCH OVER UMINO AND HER HAPPY COMRADES


SFX: RUOOOOOOOO (RHOOOOOOOO)
PLANE ENGINES: NEGATIVE 5000
OKAY, THIS TIME I HAVE A LITTLE STORY ABOUT UMINO AND HER EDITOR T-DA-SAN...
T-da-san
Umino
—HOW DO I DESCRIBE A PERSON LIKE UMINO?
SHE'S LIKE A GIANT CREATURE EQUIPPED WITH FOUR GIANT NEGATIVE ENGINES,
AND I WOULD SAY THE ENORMITY OF THE ENERGY IN THEM IS "ENOUGH TO FLY IN THE SKY☆"
*EQUIPPED ENGINES NEGATIVE 5000 X 4
AUTHOR'S NOTE: REFERENCE TO EVANGELION
AND, WHEN THAT STARTS TO RUN WILD,
UMINO'S MAIN BODY BECOMES "SOMETHING-GELION-ISH".
--THE ONE WHO WOULD ALWAYS STAND, WITHOUT FALTERING, IN THE WAY OF UMINO WHEN SHE'S BEING SUCH A ROYAL PAIN...
IS NONE OTHER THAN THE YOUNG ANIMAL EDITOR T-DA-SHI!!
Black Tempest!!
SFX: GOOOOOOO

SFX: RUNSHUUUUUU! (WHOOOOOOOSH)
SFX: POMMN (PUPPP)
--AND SO, NO MATTER WHAT SORT OF @ELION SHE BECOMES, T-DA-SHI IS ABLE TO DO THIS USING THE POWER OF THE FORCE ☆
DI-CHUU!
*SOMETHING KINDA LIKE A P_KEBALL
SFX: GYUUUUUUUUU (PWOOOOOOSH)
BECAUSE SHE THREW AN OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF HER LIFE INTO IT, IF THIS WORK WAS REJECTED, IT WOULD FEEL LIKE HER OWN EXISTENCE WAS BEING REJECTED BY THE WHOLE WORLD. SO THE DAY BEFORE IT WENT ON SALE, HER HEART WAS IN A TERRIBLE STATE
I'm sure it'll be all right. C'mon cheer up!
SHINS BOOKSTORE SHYO'S NOTE: A REFERENCE TO BOOK CHAIN TOKYO
*BLACKENED WITH ANXIETY
...I'm scared... What if all the readers who bought volume 1 thought "What is this? It's so boring", and nobody bought volume 2...?
C'MON, LET'S CHECK OUT THE BOOK-STORES!
*THE MORNING VOLUME 2 WENT ON SALE
ABOUT THOSE NEGATIVE ENGINES OF UMINO'S...
SHE HAD GONE ON ONE OF THOSE HUGE RAMPAGES WHEN VOLUME 2 WENT ON SALE, AND SHE BECAME "BURNT BLACK ☆"
SHAKEN DUE TO THE SUDDEN SHIFT FROM "ANXIETY" TO "RELIEF", ALL THOUGHTS HAVE CEASED
It looks like there were readers who were really looking forward to it!!
We came here first thing in the morning, and the stack is already this short! Isn't this great?
AND LOOK ☆
AH!! UMNO-SANNN, THEY PUT YOUR BOOK ON THE FLAT DISPLAYS!
--AND SURE ENOUGH! WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE USUAL LARGE MANGA BOOKSTORE...
SIGN: NEW ARRIVALS

T-DA-SHI SNAPPED ☆

SHUT UP!

—STOP BEING FUSSY!!

—Because he knew I'd come to look "First thing in the morning"...

I'm... I'm sure the manager Abe-san was worried about me so he made a dent in the mountain of books...

—AND AFTER DISSOLVING INTO MAYHEM FROM OVER-WHELMING JOY, HER THOUGHTS PLUNGED BACK INTO THE DEATH SPIRAL...

SFX: PYUUHH (WIND)

SFX: BISHITTH (SMMACK)

SFX: PAKETH (WHOA)

THAT'S GOOD, RIGHT? IT CHEERS YOU UP, RIGHT?

THE BOOKS ARE ALL LINED UP, RIGHT?

YOU'RE HAPPY, RIGHT?

ALL RIGHT. HAVE YOU CALMED DOWN NOW?

LET'S CONTINUE PUTTING OUR BEST EFFORTS IN, RIGHT?

Kay.

Kay

Kay

*SOMETHING KINDA LIKE A P_KEBALL

THE BOOKSTORE PEOPLE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR STUFF LIKE THAT!!

GO APOLOGIZE TO ABE-SAN!

Apologize from the bottom of your heart!

SFX: KAKUNN (THWACK)

Stable.

—IS WHAT I TELL MYSELF SO THAT I'LL CONTINUE TO DO MY BEST TO WORK ON MY MANGA

So if you would take a look at volume 4 as well it'd make me really happy ☆

Sincerely, Umino

IF I CAN JUST ASCERTAIN THEIR DIRECTION AND RELEASE MYSELF, I'M SURE THEY CAN BECOME INCREDIBLE ALLIES

MY GIANT NEGATIVE ENGINES MUST BE GIGANTIC IN TERMS OF THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY THEY HOLD

IF I THINK ABOUT IT,

SFX: BYOCCHO BYOCCHO (WIGGLE WIGGLE)

Ahaha Uhuhu

EVERY DAY IS LIKE THIS AND THAT, BUT I'M FINE